

# ILLUSTRATED TIMES

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No. 862.—VOL. XIX.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1871.

PRICE 3D.

## THE STRIKES.

READERS of newspapers cannot have failed to observe how prominent a feature of their contents reports of strikes have recently become, and that the disturbance of existing relations between employers and employed, besides being very wide-spread, invariably originates with the men. In other words, Labour is everywhere advancing claims to increased advantages, either in money wages or in time. From this fact it may safely be inferred that business is generally brisk, trade prosperous, and the profits realised satisfactory. These conditions must necessarily be presumed to exist just at present, because demands for increase of remuneration for labour are rarely, if ever, made in periods of commercial and industrial depression, though strikes in resistance of diminution of wages often do occur at such times. And indeed, it is admitted that business just now is in a very satisfactory state. Such being the case, it is not unreasonable that Labour should seek to participate in the current prosperity, and claim a share in the enhanced profits of Capital. It is a mighty pity, however, that no better mode can be devised of adjusting these claims than the old and clumsy processes of "strikes" and "lock-outs"—processes by which everybody concerned must lose and no one reaps commensurate gain. Some time ago it was thought that the institution of courts of arbitration and the conciliatory influence of disinterested persons would obviate the necessity for strikes; but the experiment appears to have failed, and it would seem that disputes between masters and workmen, like quarrels between nations, must still be brought to the *ultima ratio* of war, and can only be settled by the exhaustion of one party or of both. This is very deplorable, for it implies the existence somewhere of a determination to resist doing that which is right, or of wrong-headed obsti-

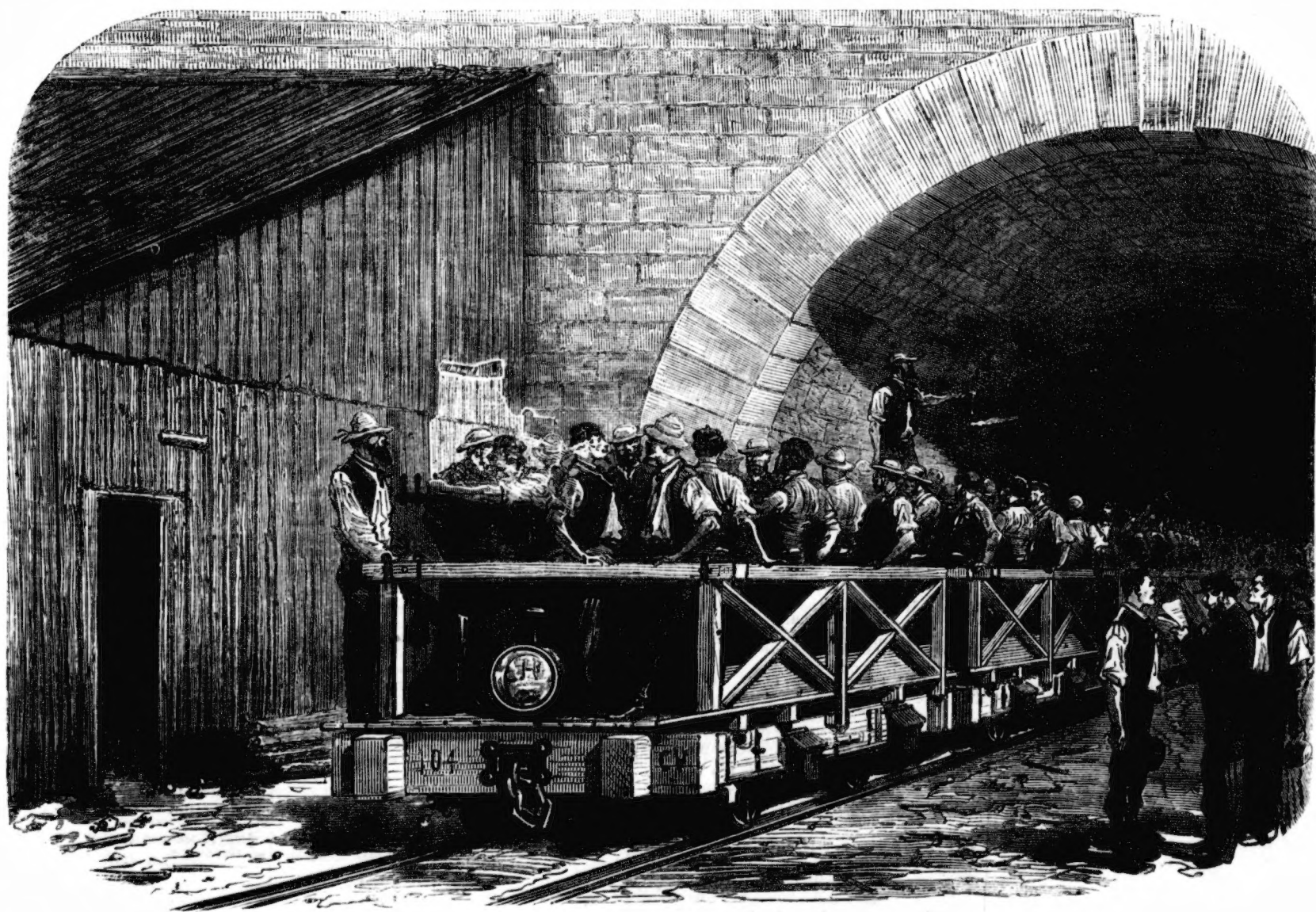
nacy, at the least. Were there a will, there could surely be found a more excellent—because less disastrous—way of arranging trade differences than that now in vogue.

We do not wish to invoke sentiment in connection with this matter, which is a pure affair of barter. Labour, like other commodities, is a thing to be bought and sold; it can only command high prices when it is in extra demand—that is, when it is scarce; and it can only be bought very cheap when it is superabundant. The first is, of course, the most desirable state of affairs, because when labour is in request and dear its products must be yielding good profits; and, on the other hand, when trade is dull and labour superabundant, and therefore cheap, capital renders small returns, and masters suffer as well as workmen. There are, however, points beyond which neither increase nor diminution of wages can be carried. Increase is checked when labour becomes so costly that its products cannot be sold; and reduction is limited by the possibility of the workman existing on his receipts. Things may take some time to find their level; but that level is invariably discovered. These are very trite principles, and to restate them may seem mere surplurage; and yet it is not so, for were they thoroughly understood and frankly acted upon strikes would become impossible, because unnecessary. On the one hand, masters would be ready to concede an advance of wages directly the rate of profit warranted it; and, on the other, workmen would not seek an advance unless the condition of trade made its payment possible. The same rules, of course, would govern reductions. It is because masters and workmen, both alike, either do not understand these simple rules, or will not act upon them, that trade disputes, eventuating in strikes and lock-outs, occur.

Now, applying these principles—which after all are the

mere A B C of political economy—to the present state of affairs, it seems to be not only just, but desirable, that the workmen's claims should receive consideration. The general prosperity of the country is admitted. Trade is active, capital is (for the present, at least) abundant and yields good profits; labour is in demand; and therefore it is only reasonable that wages should rise, as, in an opposite state of things, they would naturally decline—and rise, too, without the necessity of strikes occurring. Why, in these circumstances, strikes are occurring is, as it seems to us, for employers to explain. Workmen, in some instances, may be asking too much—that is to say, more than the scale of profits will warrant; but that does not justify the refusal of all concession to them. The degree of advance in wages is a matter to be adjusted by discussion, investigation, and a mutual disposition to be candid and conciliatory—in short, it is, like most other human affairs, a subject for compromise.

We have dealt with existing disputes as questions of increase of wages, which we hold them to be substantially, although some—notably the engineers' strike at Newcastle—are nominally about time; for shortening the hours of work really means increasing the payment of wages—not, perhaps, to the same individual workman, but to others. Presuming that each workman now gives an equivalent in labour for the wages he receives, if the working hours be reduced from ten to nine per day, it is clear that ten men will be required to perform the same quantity of work now performed by nine, and that the sum extracted from the wage-paying fund will be increased one-tenth. This is substantially an increase of wages, though each individual's share may remain the same. The money is distributed over a larger area; the same job is made to maintain a larger number of hands; and



COMPLETION OF THE MONT CENIS TUNNEL. EXCAVATORS LEAVING THEIR WORK.





that is all. From this point of view, shortening the working hours would seem preferable to advancing wages, because it is better that men should live by their own labour than be maintained out of the earnings of others, as is the case with all idle men. The workmen, moreover, may find it to their advantage even to forego a portion of their emoluments (receiving an equivalent in time), in order to reduce the number of unemployed hands, and so lessen the pressure on the labour market; or, which is quite as likely just now, to increase the demand for labour. Nor would they be really losers in a pecuniary point of view, because the demand upon them for contributions to the fund maintained by almost all trades for the support of unemployed hands would either cease or be greatly lessened. This we believe to be the object at which the leaders of the Nine Hours' League are really aiming; and to ask for time instead of money may seem—and perhaps is—generous and self-denying on the part of the Tyneside engineers. But it is equivalent to an increase of wages all the same; and as the state of business on the Tyne seems to warrant such increase, we see no reason why it should not be granted. Indeed, if the demand for the products of Tyneside industry continues, the increase must ultimately be granted, in money or in time, whether the masters be willing or not.

Other matters, no doubt, enter into this question of wages, so generally agitated just now. Among these are the improvements in machinery and the share to which employers and employed are respectively entitled in the saving thereby effected. These points open wide fields of discussion, into which we cannot enter at present further than to remark that as the general public—that is, the purchasers of machine-made goods—participate indirectly in the saving effected by the introduction and improvement of machinery, it does not seem altogether unreasonable that the workmen engaged in managing those machines should share directly in the benefits they confer, though, of course, in a much smaller degree than do the capitalists by whose enterprise and at whose cost they are introduced. Then there is another question in connection with the nine hours' movement that cannot be overlooked: the loss, to wit, which employers sustain by the idleness of their machinery caused by shortening the hours of manual labour. This, it is said, would be considerable, and ought to be taken into account in adjusting points in dispute. The difficulty might be got over at busy seasons by working overtime; but that just brings us back to the old theme—an increase of wages, into which the whole dispute resolves itself.

We believe the general movement for enhanced remuneration to labour now going on—which, by-the-by, is not confined to Great Britain—arises mainly in consequence of the prosperity of trade; but it may also have its origin, in part, in the increased and increasing necessity for higher wages; or, putting it in other words, from the decreased and decreasing purchasing power of money. It is a universal complaint that the necessities of life—such as butchers' meat, bacon, butter, cheese, breadstuffs, &c.—are very dear, and becoming dearer; but that is only another way of saying that the same nominal sum of money will not purchase a like quantity of commodities that it once did. In fact, there can be little doubt that the great influx of gold within the last few years—we mean, of course, comparatively few years—has lowered the value of the precious metal; and that, consequently, a sovereign is no longer worth twenty shillings—that is to say, it will not now purchase the same quantity of goods that twenty shillings did formerly. Fixed incomes are thus practically lowered in amount, though nominally the same. Much pinching is felt; and, as people are unwilling or unable to lower their style of living, they look out for means of adding to their income to make up the deficiency. Professional men, merchants, tradesmen, and so forth, may accomplish this by extra exertions. To the workman the only means of doing so that suggests itself—or, perhaps, that is possible—is an increase of wages; and an increase of wages he accordingly claims. Whether or not he will get that increase depends on the demand that exists for the products of his labour, and, consequently, for that labour itself. But from the diminished purchasing power of money one of two things must result: either higher salaries and wages must be paid, or the current style of living will have to be lowered. Which of these alternatives may finally be adopted, time and experience only can determine.

#### OPENING OF THE MONT CENIS TUNNEL.

At half-past six on Sunday morning the first train, carrying the Commission appointed to proceed to Modane, there to meet the French Commission, left the station of Turin. The train consisted of about twenty carriages. Among the company were Signor Visconti Venosta; Signor Devincenzi, the Minister of Public Works; Signor Sella, who had just arrived from the bedside of a son who is dangerously ill; Signor Castagnola, the Minister of Agriculture; the President of the Chamber of Deputies, a large number of senators and deputies, and the mayors of the principal Italian cities. All the guests were in evening dress.

All along the line and at the intermediate stations crowds of peasants from the neighbouring villages, with bands playing the Royal March, saluted the train. At half-past ten precisely the train entered the tunnel at Bardonnecchia amidst enthusiastic cheering. The tunnel was traversed in twenty-one minutes precisely. All the carriages kept the windows open, there being no smoke at all. The temperature was 23 centigrade. The train arrived at Modane at eleven, and there found M. Lefranc, M. de Lesseps, and the members of the French Commission. M. de Rémusat arrived subsequently.

At the station the Ministers entered into conversation. The French Minister and Chevalier Nigra then got into the Royal carriages. The engines were decorated with Italian and French flags, and the train left Modane at half-past twelve, re-entered the tunnel at forty minutes past twelve, and left it at twenty-five minutes past one.

A grand banquet was subsequently held, at which felicitations on the completion of the enterprise were exchanged and mutual good wishes expressed by the delegates of the several nations represented. Other banquets, at Turin and elsewhere, have since followed, one of which was favoured with the presence of King Victor Emmanuel.

The project of constructing a tunnel under the Alps was one of the favourite designs of Count Cavour. Strangely enough, Count Cavour wished the tunnel to be undertaken quite as much in order to unite more closely the two divisions of the kingdom over which his Sovereign then ruled—viz., Savoy and Piedmont. The date of the commencement of the tunnel was Aug. 15, 1857. The two points at which it was determined to commence the tunnel were two wretched little Alpine villages, Bardonnecchia and Fourneaux, the former on the Italian, the latter on the French, side of Mont Frejus, the tunnel being nearly pierced under the above-named mountain, and not, as common report would have it, beneath Mont Cenis. These two villages were of the smallest size and most miserable character, and offered no accommodation whatever to the many hundred workmen employed on each side the mountain. Bardonnecchia, on the Piedmontese side, is a village which, in 1857, when the works commenced, contained about 1000 souls. The houses in it were really little better than huts, being mostly occupied by shepherds, who were absent with their flocks on the mountains during the summer months; consequently, not only were there no conveniences for the establishment of the works, the accommodation of the engineers and workmen, &c., but the means of transporting even food were wanting. At Fourneaux things were even worse for men, there being an ordinary population of only 400 inhabitants; there was not a single shop in which food could be bought by the men engaged on the engineering works. Consequently, they were obliged to establish themselves at Modane, where they could obtain tolerable accommodation, but which was a mile and a half from their work at Fourneaux. For more than three years they were all obliged to walk that distance three or four times a day, over rocks and marshes, and often over sands five or six feet deep. The first problem to be solved, says Mr. Francis Kossuth, one of the Royal Commissioners of Italian Railways, in his able report on the Mont Cenis Tunnel, was threefold:—First, to fix across the mountain several points, which would all be contained in the vertical plane drawn through the axis of the tunnel; second, to obtain the exact length between the openings; third, to know the precise difference of level between the two extremities of the tunnel, so as to obtain the proper gradients. In order to execute this programme a series of observations were established on all the favourable points, and an elaborate trigonometrical survey of the district was commenced. By the end of the season little could be done in the way of surveying; in the winter of the year 1858 all the surveys relating to the alignment and to the length of the tunnel were completed, and all was ready to compile the longitudinal section along the axis of the tunnel. The whole system consisted of twenty-eight triangles, and eighty-six was the number of measured angles. All of these were repeated never less than ten times, the greater part twenty, and the most important as many as sixty times. To give the reader an idea of the extraordinary care and accuracy with which the surveying operations were carried out, it may be mentioned that Signor Mondino repeated his experiments for obtaining the level of the tunnel, or rather of the signals over the mountain in 1857 and 1858, and the difference in the two surveys (over more than 13,000 yards), was only of 3.93 in. Even this was reduced afterwards by Signor Termino to 1.57 inch. The preliminary measurements gave a distance of 13,861.5 yards between the two temporary openings. We say temporary openings, because, although the tunnel is itself constructed in a perfectly straight line from Fourneaux and Bardonnecchia, passengers will not pass through the original straight tunnel, but will be conveyed through a branch one which joins the main line a short distance from Fourneaux. The nature of the ground was such as to necessitate the definite and permanent tunnel being taken through the mountain in a curve; but even the unprofessional reader will see that a straight line was indispensable, in order to secure not only accuracy of direction but also a through draught of air through the whole length of the tunnel. A most important consideration this latter, as one of the main objections brought against the scheme was the supposed difficulty there would be in keeping the tunnel thoroughly well ventilated. It was also much easier to transmit the necessary motive power along a straight line than on a curve. The tunnel, although its axis was straight, was not constructed on a dead level, for two reasons. First, it was considered necessary to have a slope upwards, in order that any water in the tunnel might easily drain itself away; and, secondly, by having the two lines so drawn that they must ultimately cross each other, it was evident that the chances of meeting were reduced to a positive certainty. In order to explain this latter proposition, the reader has only to imagine two parallel lines and two lines each ascending. The very definition of parallel lines is that they shall never meet, however far they may be prolonged; whereas it is self-evident that two lines which are not parallel the one to the other must ultimately meet if they be only prolonged far enough in the same direction. The gradients were: from the Bardonnecchia (Italian) end, 4408.50 ft. above the level of the sea, 1 in 2000 (0.002 per metre) for a distance of 20,997.33 ft. From the Fourneaux entrance (French side), 3945 ft. above the sea, the rising gradient was 1 in 43,4782 (0.23 per metre) for 20,587 ft.

	Feet.
Elevation above sea level at Bardonnecchia .. .. .	4,408.50
Rise of gradient of 1 in 2000 for 20,997.33 ft. .. ..	10.49
Summit level .. .. .	4,418.99
Elevation above sea level at Fourneaux .. .. .	3,945.00
Rise of gradient of 1 in 43,4782 for 20,587 ft. .. ..	473.50
	4,418.50

This was the calculation on paper; the actual result is as under, and differs wonderfully little, the error being partly owing to discrepancies discovered whilst the final line of the tunnel was being traced as well from mistakes in the precise levels of the starting points.

The absolute figures are as follow:—

	Feet.
Total length of the tunnel, 13,864.86 yards.	
Elevation above the sea level of the Bardonnecchia entrance .. .. .	4381.25
Rise of gradient of 1 in 2000 for 20,948 ft. .. .. .	10.024
Summit level from Bardonnecchia .. .. .	4391.274
Elevation above sea level at Fourneaux entrance .. .. .	3946.50
Rise of gradient of 1 in 43,045 for 20,045.10 ft. .. ..	445.00
Summit level from Fourneaux .. .. .	4391.50

This shows a very slight difference from the calculations of the summit level as reckoned at Bardonnecchia, and gives a mean level for the highest point of 4391.386 ft. The greatest height of the mass of the Alps over the tunnel is 5307 ft.

After giving these figures, it may be of interest to present the reader with the account given by an eye-witness, M. Génési, of the meeting of the workmen last winter in the depths of the earth more than 5000 ft. beneath the summit of Mont Frejus. "On the 9th of November, 1870," says M. Génési, "I was on my regular round of inspection, as usual, when I fancied I heard through the rocks the noise of the explosion of the mines on the Bardonnecchia side. I sent a despatch to discover if the hours agreed. They did, and then there could be no longer any doubt that we were nearing the goal. Each following day the explosions were to be heard more and more distinctly. At the beginning of December we heard quite clearly the blows of the perforators against the rocks. Then we vaguely heard the sound of voices. But were we going to meet at the same level and in the same axis? For three days and three nights engineers, foremen, and heads of gangs never left the tunnel. The engineers Borely and Boni

directed the works on the Bardonnecchia side, M. Copello on that of Fourneaux. We could not eat or sleep; everyone was in a state of fever. At length, on the morning of Dec. 26, the rock fell in near the roof. The breach was made, and we could see each other and shake hands. The same evening the hole was clear—the last obstacle—and the mountain was pierced, our work was done. What a rejoicing we had! In spite of the war, the cheers of all scientific Europe came to find us in the entrails of our mountain when the happy termination of our enterprise became known. The two axes met almost exactly; there was barely half a yard error. The level on our side was only 60 centimetres (less than three quarters of a yard) too high. But after thirteen years of continual work, who could even hope for so perfect a result? We placed at the point of junction an inscription on a marble tablet, commemorative of the happy event."

How was the happy event brought about? For the variation of less than a yard in more than 13,000 is surely one of the triumphs of modern engineering skill. We cannot do better than borrow the description of the method pursued given by Mr. Kossuth—"The observatories placed at the two entrances to the tunnel were used for the necessary observations, and each observatory contained an instrument constructed for the purpose. This instrument was placed on a pedestal of masonry, the top of which was covered with a horizontal slab of marble having engraved upon its surface two intersecting lines marking a point which was exactly in the vertical plane containing the axis of the tunnel. The instrument was formed of two supports fixed on a tripod, having a delicate screw adjustment. The telescope was similar to that of a theodolite, provided with cross webs, and strongly illuminated by the light from a lantern, concentrated by a lens, and projected upon the cross webs. In using this instrument in checking the axis of the gallery at the northern entrance, for example, after having proved precisely that the vertical flame corresponding with the point of intersection of the lines upon the slab also passed through the centre of the instrument, a visual line was then conveyed to the station at Lachalle (on the mountain), and on the instrument being lowered the required number of points could be fixed in the axis of the tunnel. In executing such an operation it was necessary that the tunnel should be free from smoke or vapour. The point of collimation was a plummet suspended from the roof of the tunnel by means of an iron rectangular frame, in one side of which a number of notches were cut, and the plummet was shifted from notch to notch, in accordance with the signals of the operator at the observatory. These signals were given to the man whose business it was to adjust the plummet by means of a telegraph or a horn. The former was found invaluable throughout all these operations. At the Bardonnecchia entrance the instrument employed in setting out the axis of the tunnel was similar to the one already described, with the exception that it was mounted on a little carriage resting on vertical columns that were erected at distances 500 metres apart in the axis of the tunnel. By the help of the carriage the theodolite was first placed on the centre line approximately. It was then brought exactly into line by a fine adjustment-screw, which moved the eyepiece without shifting the carriage. In order to understand more clearly the method of operating the instrument, the mode of proceeding may be described. In setting out a prolongation of the centre line of the tunnel the instrument was placed upon the last column but one; a light was stationed upon the last column, and exactly in its centre, and 500 metres ahead a trestle-frame was placed across the tunnel. Upon the horizontal bar of this trestle several notches were cut, against which a light was placed and fixed with proper adjusting screws. The observer standing at the instrument caused the light to move upon the trestle frame until it was brought into an exact line with the instrument and the first light, and then the centre of the light was projected with a plummet. In this way the exact centre was found. By a repetition of similar operations the vertical plane containing the axis of the tunnel was laid out by a series of plummet lines. During the intervals that elapsed between consecutive operations with the instrument the plummets were found to be sufficient for maintaining the direction in making the excavation. To maintain the proper gradients in the tunnel it was necessary at intervals to establish fixed levels, deducing them by direct levelling from standard bench marks placed at short distances from the entrances. The fixed level marks in the inside of the tunnel are made upon stone pillars placed at intervals of twenty-five metres, and to these were referred the various points in setting out the gradients."

There will be two lines of rail in the tunnel. The vault itself will be 6 metres high and 8 metres wide. The tunnel will be walled in along its whole length, and the lime rock will be nowhere exposed. The thickness of the internal masonry forming the tube is from a yard to a yard and more, according to circumstances. On the French side the masonry cost, on the average, 13000, the square metre; on the Italian side only 10000. The tunnel is wonderfully dry in comparison with many smaller works. There is only one subterranean spring of any importance in it. A water-course, or rather a little aqueduct, has been constructed beneath the permanent way, in order to carry off any water which might drain into the tunnel.

The method of boring used in the Mont Cenis Tunnel has been so often described that a very short account of it will suffice. At starting we should remind the reader that it is a mistake to fancy that the tunnel has been bored on a new principle. This is not so; the great work has been accomplished by means of blasting as it has been used in mining operations for centuries. But it is in the use of air as a motive power for the perforating tools that the novelty of the Mont Cenis Tunnel operations consists. Air was compressed to six atmospheres by means of hydraulic pressure obtained from the mountain streams in the neighbourhood of the tunnel. The piercing instrument was a steel drill driven by a piston, worked itself by compressed air from a movable press. The compressed air was conveyed in a cast-iron tube of 7.84 inches inside diameter, and 39 in. thick. It is made in lengths of from 6 ft. to 8 ft. Safety valves were placed in this tube, and under the pressure became more than six atmospheres; air escaped, and was conveyed by other tubes to the scene of operations in the middle of the mountain, and supplied the workmen with fresh air. The quantity of water consumed was 35,317 cubic feet per second, there being a fall of 144 ft. The method of operation in order to pierce the rock was as follows:—Seven drills pierced a series of holes in the rock. These holes were about a yard in depth, an inch to three inches in diameter; only the smaller ones were filled with powder, the larger were simply made in order to diminish the resistance of the stone. These seventy holes took from five to seven hours to perforate, according to the nature of the rock. When the holes had been made they were dried thoroughly by means of blasts of compressed air and then charged. The mines were successively exploded, beginning with those in the centre of the vault. Then the fragments were cleared away in trucks. In the twenty-four hours the progress varied from two yards to two yards and a half.

Much has been said about the heat in the tunnel. All accounts agree that it is not excessive, and a recent French visitor to the tunnel gives the following figures:—At the entrance, 54 deg. Fahrenheit; at the telegraph station inside, 76 deg. Fahrenheit; the average temperature being about 65 deg. Fahrenheit.

In connection with this great undertaking, now so happily completed, several illustrations have already appeared on our pages; and we now publish a couple of Engravings portraying incidents of the work. One of these represents the excavators returning to the open air from their work in the bowels of the mountain, and the other the fixing of the last rail: an episode of no small moment to those immediately concerned and of great interest to all Europe, but especially to Italy and France, which were thereby more intimately joined than they had ever been before.

THE NEW LINE OF RAILWAY constructed by the London, Chatham, and Dover Company from Nunhead to Lewisham-road and Blackheath-hill was opened for public traffic on Monday.



## Foreign Intelligence.

## FRANCE.

The President of the Republic has effected an arrangement which will greatly improve and strengthen his position and raise him in the estimation of his countrymen. By means of a treaty of commerce, to endure until July, 1873, giving the products of Alsace and Lorraine free entry into France, he has induced the Germans to evacuate the whole of Burgundy and Picardy and part of Champagne. Any measure for getting rid of the conquerors of Champagne, which does not involve a large pecuniary payment will be acceptable in the present temper of the French people; and the desired result, in this instance and so far as it goes, has been secured only at the sacrifice of M. Thiers's Protectionist principles. The National Assembly, after a long debate, in which his Excellency took part, adopted the treaty by 533 to 31 votes, subject, however, to the following additions, introduced into the measure by the Committee to which it was referred:—

"Art. 2. In every case the introduction into France of Alsatian and Lorraine manufactures will be limited in as exact proportions as possible for every article in accordance with the produce of the year 1869 in these provinces, deducting their own consumption, and taking the mean direct exportation of preceding years for other destinations than France. Art. 3. The French products and manufactures destined for consumption in Alsace and Lorraine may be introduced into those provinces under reciprocal conditions in proportion to the local consumption. Art. 4. The reduced taxes mentioned in Art. 1 apply only to taxes already fixed by actual tariffs. Additional taxes which may be levied on foreign products and manufactures in compensation for taxes levied on natural produce will be embodied with them. Art. 5. A delay will be agreed upon, during which the complete evacuation of the departments will be accomplished. Art. 6. The President of the Republic is authorised to ratify any treaty which is in conformity with the conditions prescribed by the preceding articles."

Advices from Versailles say that although the modifications introduced into the Commercial Treaty with Germany have, by compelling Baron Arnim to refer to Berlin for instructions, postponed the ratifications for a few days, no serious difficulties are apprehended. But, on the other hand, the semi-official *Provincial Correspondence* of Berlin asserts that these alterations have created "serious difficulties."

Alluding to the proposal of the French Government to modify, in a Protectionist direction, the various commercial treaties under the Empire, one of the Paris papers states that Belgium, Switzerland, and Italy altogether refuse to be parties to any change of the sort.

The Committee of twenty-five which is to remain at Versailles and control the Government during the recess has been elected, and is composed of eleven members of the Right, six of the Left, and eight of the Moderate Left and Centre.

General L'Amiral has ordered the arrest of individuals circulating in the barracks pamphlets in which they seek to prove that the responsibility for the Franco-German war rests with the Opposition under the Empire.

The disarmament of the National Guard in the provinces is being carried on without any difficulty.

The deputies of the Extreme Left have commenced their campaign in favour of the dissolution of the French Assembly. They are taking advantage of the rancour felt in some large towns at the disarming of the National Guards. Lyons, Marseilles, Saint Etienne, Bordeaux, Toulouse, and Rouen, are more especially the objects of their attention.

The forts on the right bank of the Seine were on Wednesday morning formally made over to the French troops. The suburb of St. Denis was decorated with flags by the inhabitants. General Manteuffel has established his headquarters at Nancy, after the evacuation of Compiegne.

Rochefort's trial before Colonel Merlin, which commenced on Wednesday, excited immense curiosity, and attracted a far larger audience than had yet been seen. Every seat was occupied, and many with tickets remained outside for want of standing room. Rochefort looked ill and worn, and spat frequently. He was dressed in mourning, with black kid gloves, and has cut off much of the shaggy bristling hair which gave him so eccentric an appearance at Bordeaux. He answered questions with firmness and self-possession, and claimed credit for not having after Sept. 4 used his popularity in furtherance of personal ambition. On the contrary, he deferred in all things to General Trochu, and from patriotic motives suspended the *Marseillaise*, which brought him 20,000fr. per month. He had but 15fr. when released from prison, on Sept. 4, and yet refused 1500fr. arrears of deputy's pay which his colleagues offered him. He had always supported a Communal Government, but did not belong to the Commune of March 18. He was on bad terms with it, and narrowly escaped the fate of Chaudey. He had satirically and violently blamed the Versailles Government because he was irritated by shells falling near his own house. His impulsive style of writing might be blamable, but he had always been patriotic. When arrested at Meaux, the Prussian General in command offered to release him; it was therefore of his own free will that he appeared before the French court-martial. Maurot and Maret, two colleagues of Rochefort on the *Mot d'Ordre*, were indicted with him. Commander Gaveau produced no other evidence than Rochefort's diary and some articles of the *Mot d'Ordre*, which he read at great length. He urged the Court to put out of the way of doing more harm the pestilent race of journalists, of whom Rochefort was the chief, who made a trade of sedition. The trial was adjourned till Thursday, when M. Albert Joly addressed the Court for Rochefort.

## BELGIUM.

On Wednesday night the engineers of Brussels paraded the city in procession, with flags and banners, in celebration of the termination of the strike, and the acceptance by the masters of the ten hours' system.

## HOLLAND.

The Royal Speech, delivered at the opening of the States General of Holland, on Monday, congratulated the people upon the excellence of their foreign relations, and announced reforms in the army and financial system of the country.

## SWITZERLAND.

At Solence, on Monday, there was a large delegate meeting of "Old Catholics," at which the programme of a revision of the Confederation was submitted and unanimously adopted, on the ground that it was in the "interest of religious liberty." Another telegram states that the "Old Catholic party," in the canton of Solothurn, has constituted itself a Swiss association of "Liberal Catholics."

## ITALY.

Wednesday was the anniversary of the entry of the Italian troops into Rome, and the occasion was celebrated by the Romans with great demonstrations of enthusiasm. Notwithstanding that the weather was rather unfavourable, the streets were crowded with people, and all the houses were hung with flags. The working men's associations marched in procession to the Porta Pia, by which the Italian army made its entrance into the city; in the afternoon there was a review of the Italian troops; and in the evening a grand illumination.

## SPAIN.

King Amadeus has been feted with immense enthusiasm by the Barcelonaise. His Majesty commenced the present week by reviewing the fleet in the harbour of Barcelona, and afterwards attending a ball of monster proportions on board the Numantia. Three thousand persons were present, and the King remained and participated in the festivities until five o'clock in the morning. Next day he was occupied in visiting the prisons, factories, and various philanthropic institutions, and in laying the foundation-

stone of a new public school. His Majesty, who frequently walks or drives about the streets in plain dress, and without an escort, has, it is said, completely won the popular sympathies.

The Carlist movements are said to have ceased. Don Carlos has been ordered by the French Government to leave Bayonne.

## GERMANY.

The results of the late Imperial conferences at Gastein and Salzburg are to be communicated by the Austrian Government in a circular to their representatives at foreign Courts; but we learn that nothing more will be stated than what has already been divulged to the world.

A telegram from Berlin states that the German army is to be placed on a peace footing of 400,000 men, and that Count Moltke has been created Chief Marshal of the Empire.

During the week ending Sept. 17 the fatal cases of cholera in Königsberg exceeded those of any previous week. The death rate rose from 50 to 60 to 70 to 80 per 1000. According to the latest official returns received at Berlin, the number of persons attacked by cholera in the Baltic provinces of Prussia, up to the 10th inst., was 2517 civilians and 84 soldiers, of whom 1273 died, 620 recovered, and 708 remained under treatment.

## AUSTRIA.

The German members were absent from the Diet on the 16th. A declaration on their part was read justifying their non-participation in the debate by the illegality of the Diet in consequence of the prerogatives assumed by the Crown. They protest against any illegal votes that may be passed, and request that the Governor will bring their declaration to the notice of the Government.

## SERVIA.

The Skupchina was opened, on Tuesday, by a Throne Speech on the part of the Regency, laying stress on the secure Constitution of Serbia, and prominently noticing the agricultural progress of the country. After announcing the proposed introduction of several important bills, the speech bears witness to the excellent condition of the national army, the first ban of which is receiving firearms constructed on improved principles. With respect to the railway question, the Government will try to come to a perfect understanding with the Porte. A bill will be brought in for sanctioning the erection of a monument to the memory of Prince Michael at the public expense.

## TURKEY.

Nollo Mustapha Bey has been appointed Scheikhul-Islam, and Monsignor Attainos Ecumenical Patriarch. Both these dignitaries are octogenarians.

The Secretary of the Sultan has addressed, by order of his Majesty, a letter to the Grand Vizier, in which he says that although the progress in the wellbeing of the empire is unprecedented, yet his Majesty has not found that his generous intentions have been carried out in a manner responding to his desire—viz., to secure by wise institutions the welfare of the people. His Majesty desires that the defence of the public rights of all should form the fundamental basis of reforms and progress, which the Grand Vizier is directed to carry out; but if it is a wise policy that each State should regulate its institutions and laws according to its particular manners, the interest of this country demands that it should not entirely sacrifice its usages and customs for those political institutions to which its aspirations tend. The principle which ought to guide Turkey in this task consists in guaranteeing a strict execution of justice and in inspiring confidence and security in all. Therefore his Majesty desires, before all things, that the distribution of justice should be entrusted to worthy and capable men.

Several cases of Asiatic cholera have occurred at Pera and the neighbouring villages.

## SWEDEN.

The measure of army reorganisation propounded by the Government has been received with scant favour or courtesy by the Second Chamber of Parliament, the committee having rejected it by 14 to 9 votes.

## THE UNITED STATES.

The Agricultural Bureau states officially that the most favourable reports do not now indicate a cotton crop exceeding 3,333,000 bales, but, if the growing season be short or unfavourable, 3,000,000 only. A combination of unfavourable circumstances might still further reduce the quantity.

## INDIA.

Intelligence has been received from Calcutta that Assistant Chief Justice Norman has been stabbed by a native while entering his court. Mr. Norman died at one o'clock on Thursday morning, at a house near the court, to which he was taken when wounded. One wound was in the abdomen, and the other on the left shoulder between the spine and the bladebone. When struck he fell, but recovered and ran, then stopped and flung a brick at the murderer, who was promptly captured. The murderer was examined on Wednesday, and made no defence. In reply to a question, he said that "earth is sunk below the water, and the men have gone up to the sky; the dog is eating the wall." He is believed to be feigning madness. He had ascertained previously at what time the court opened, and waited on the steps until Mr. Justice Norman arrived, when he struck him with a tapering Goorkha knife. There seems nothing political in the murder. It is rumoured that Mr. Justice Norman had decided a private suit against the murderer.

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP MEGERA.—Information has been received from her Majesty's Acting Consul at Batavia, in a letter dated Aug. 5 last, that Lieutenant Jones was landed at Sourabaya (on the north east coast of the island of Java) from the Dutch barque Aurora, which had conveyed him from St. Paul's Island. He was expected at Batavia on Aug. 6, and Mr. Fraser would send the fullest information on every point respecting the Megera and her shipwrecked crew obtainable from him by the French mail leaving Batavia on Aug. 15.

A RAILWAY TO INDIA.—Messrs. William Low and George Thomas, of Wrexham and Cardiff, have, under the form of a letter to Mr. Gladstone, published an outline of a plan for bringing India within a five days' journey from England. They propose to make use of existing lines of railway and of the Mont Cenis Tunnel to Trieste, and thence to construct a railroad through Austria, European and Asiatic Turkey, Persia, and Beloochistan, to Karachi, and onwards to Bombay. The total distance from London to Karachi would be 5111 miles by rail, and 28 miles (the strait of Dover) by sea. At a uniform rate of ten miles and a half an hour by water and forty miles an hour by land the journey from end to end would be accomplished in five days, sixteen hours, forty-six minutes. Of the total length of line required nearly one fourth (1170 miles) is already constructed. The highest estimated cost of the undertaking is in round numbers forty-one millions sterling, and the projectors suggest that the cost of construction should be borne not by one nation only but by all through which the line would pass. Their suggestion is that there should be an Anglo-Indian Company, responsible for the construction and maintenance of the through permanent way, and a group of subordinate companies responsible for the construction and maintenance of all stations, sidings, and other works required for the local traffic to, from, or within each country that would be traversed.

EXTENSIVE FRAUDS ON A PUBLIC COMPANY.—The report of the directors of the Birmingham Gas Company, to be presented to the next annual meeting, discloses an extraordinary system of wholesale frauds on the company, which has been extended over many years, and in which not only the secretary (who has absconded) but several of the collectors of the company are involved. Indeed, without the collusion of several servants of the company, the losses sustained by the shareholders could not have reached the startling amount of over £25,000. Nearly the whole of the undivided profits of many years' working have been swept away, and the reserve fund has been much reduced. The falsification of the accounts was, it is stated, effected by bringing forward, quarter after quarter, arrears, sums which had been paid to the collectors or counter clerks, and not accounted for by them. The total losses for which the late secretary is responsible amount to £17,907 13s. 2d., and the collectors have made away with £8173 3s. 6d. Warrants have been issued against the secretary and one of the collectors who absconded, but no criminal proceedings will be instituted against the other delinquents, who have been required, personally or by their surrogates, to make good their deficiencies. The directors promise a more vigilant supervision of the accounts for the future, and report that the business of the year has been prosperous, and warrants the payment of the usual maximum dividend of 9 per cent per annum.

## A NEW ANTI-FOREIGN MOVEMENT IN CHINA.

The China papers contain an account of a new calumny against foreigners and native Christians in China, which appears to be causing much excitement among the population. The *China Mail* says:—

"About the middle of June, so the story goes, a farm-woman in a village near Fatsan went out to the field to work, and she found, to her surprise, a basket of corn-flour. Taking the basket home, she informed her neighbours of her fortunate discovery. The neighbours congratulated her that she had received extraordinary favours from the deities, for the basket must have been a gift from the genii. Many of them then besought her to impart a little of the divine gift to them, and in the course of a short time the surrounding districts came to know of the contents of this famous basket. About this time the feeling of hatred against the Fatsan Chapel was at its height, the rebuilding of the original edifice having been completed, and possession was to have been delivered over to the native Christians within a short time. In the mean while the place was guarded by the soldiers of the local authorities. All these circumstances heightened the feelings of the gentry and literati class, and some of them maliciously embraced the opportunity of the discovery of the 'divine gift' to prepare a pill, made, it is alleged, of various slow poisons, calling it by the name of 'Shan-Sin-Fan,' and distributing it far and wide, saying it came from the foreigners, more especially from those who have any connection with the Fatsan Chapel. There must have been several preparations of this pill, but all went by the same name. A portion, it is said, was distributed in the shape of powder, in packets. The allegation that the pill was poisonous seemed to have been questioned, for some have positively stated that personally they had partaken of the so-called poison, but did not feel any the worse for it, while others were equally certain that the renowned 'Shan-Sin-Fan' was actually composed of poison, though they failed to point out a single case where sickness had resulted from the taking of this pill or powder. To account for this failure, however, they averred that the time had not come for the poison to show itself. The time mentioned in the inflammatory placards required for the poison to develop itself is variously stated, ranging from twenty to one hundred days.

"In reference to the above excitement, we learn that a young Chinaman met with a summary death at the hands of the populace. He was seen throwing the contents of a packet into a well at the Lower Niath Poo, in the western part of Canton. The people at once fell upon him and belaboured him with poles and chair-shafts, until he was lying in an insensible state. The noise brought to the spot the head of the gentry, an influential man of the surname of Leong, whose family is known for wealth as well as for literary honours. He reasoned with the populace that they had been doing a very rash thing in putting a man to death without inquiring into the guilt or otherwise of a charge that had been brought against him. He suggested the search of the young man's person, and, unfortunately, it is said, there were several packets of powder found on him. The mob became furious at this, and, heaving a huge stone, threw it at him while he was yet lying in an insensible state and unable to utter a word in defence of himself. The stone smashed him to death instantaneously. We are glad to learn that the Viceroy is sincere in his endeavours to avert a public rising, for he has sent 500 soldiers to Fatsan to strengthen the garrison and for the purpose of keeping down any riot. He has, moreover, assured both the English and American Consuls that he has given very strict orders to all the mandarins under him, high and low, to do their utmost to prevent the spread of the popular feeling, and to punish severely all who shall post or write inflammatory placards."

The same paper says, in another portion of its columns:—"We hear on very good authority that the 'Shan Sin Fan' proves to be no more nor less than rice-flour! One of the pills and some of the powder having been obtained, the component parts of both were found, on analysis by a competent gentleman, to be of the same harmless substance, except that the pill, in addition, was covered with a little red colouring matter."

EXPLOSION AT A CARTRIDGE FACTORY.—On Monday evening a sad accident occurred at Messrs. Eley Brothers' cartridge factory in Gray's-inn-road, to a girl named Annie Odell, of Penringle-street, Camden Town, employed there as a cartridge charger. Her duty was to place gunpowder in each cartridge, followed by a small wad, then the shot, to be finally rammed down with another wad. In doing this the gunpowder exploded, and the charge was blown into the poor girl's face. She was taken to the Royal Free Hospital, and immediately seen by Mr. Gant; but so many shots are believed to have lodged in the eyes that the result will probably be the loss of sight. Although there were several cartridges lying about on the table where the explosion occurred, no accident happened to any one else.

A SENTENCE REMITTED.—Her Majesty has been graciously pleased, on the recommendation of the Home Secretary, to remit the sentence of five years' penal servitude passed by Lord Chief Justice Cockburn upon two men, named Wright and Edwards, convicted, at the last spring assizes at Hereford, of night poaching and violence to an under-keeper on the Brecklet Hall estate, the property of Earl Cowper, near Wheatthamstead. A strong impression had prevailed in the neighbourhood in which the men resided that the gamekeeper, who was most cruelly maltreated, had been mistaken as to the identity of the offenders; and, in consequence, a memorial praying for the remission of the sentence and signed by the Rector of the parish and many of the inhabitants was presented to the Home Secretary, which led to a further consideration of their case and the above-mentioned result.

THE CASTLE OF THE QUEENS.—The picturesque castle of Stolzenfels, well known to tourists on the Rhine, seldom tenanted, is now occupied by twin sisters, both Queens. Stolzenfels was purchased as a rule by the town of Coblenz, and presented to the late King Frederick William IV. when Crown Prince, by whom it was restored at great expense. It was bequeathed by the King to his widow, the Queen Dowager of Prussia, who is now occupying this charming retreat, while the Queen of Saxony her twin sister, and the King are on a visit to her. The late King entertained Queen Victoria very sumptuously here in 1855. It is probably little known that a personage still survives in the Prussian Royal family who connects the present with an interesting past epoch. The stepmother of the Emperor of Germany still lives. Fourteen years after the death of his ill-fated Queen, the beautiful Louise, King Frederick William III. contracted a moribund marriage with a daughter of Count von Harrach, and created her Princess von Leignitz and Countess of Hohenzollern. This lady is now in her seventy-first year.

THE MORAL OF RENFORTH'S DEATH.—The sudden death of Renforth, of Newcastle, while rowing an international match, was rendered still more gloomy and tragic by the rumours of poisoning set abroad. They proved to be entirely without foundation. They are none the more likely to be forgotten by the credulous and ignorant public. On the other hand, the disciples of Mr. Wilkie Collins will find in this sad instance a conclusive proof of the mortal danger of athleticism. The fact is that such a case as this proves nothing of the sort. Renforth was a man whose constitution was undermined by tropical disorders. He was an epileptic. He was a very excitable man, and rowed under the consciousness of the impending collapse which his constitutional condition threatened and his medical men prophesied. He never ought to have rowed in a match at all; but his pick overbore his knowledge of what was due to his weakness. Epileptics of doubtful strength ought not to engage in severe and exciting physical contests. That is the precise moral of this sad affair; but it is one of no little novelty that it need not be pointed by any such tale.—*British Medical Journal*.

## FÊTE AT LOGES.

The spectacle by which visitors to Paris have lately been impressed more than by the evidences of Prussian occupation or the worse results of the latest reign of terror, is the rapidity with which the whole city resumes its former aspect and the quick return of the people to their former vocations, pursuits, and amusements. When once the windows of the shops were mended and some of the worst scars made by the cannon were patched over, the boulevards were alive again, and in the Champs Elysées and other places of resort the swings, the open-air concerts, the Punch's shows, and all the usual entertainments were ready to begin, as though very little had happened to disturb the public pulse. It is the same with some of the suburban retreats, where the regular fêtes are once more being observed with a cheerful vitality that is one of the most encouraging symptoms of the present position of France. Our Engraving illustrates one of the latest of these open-





FETE AT LOGES, ST. GERMAIN-EN-LAYE, NEAR PARIS: THE COOKING DEPARTMENT.

air festivals, which, after having lapsed for a year, was resumed a Sunday or two ago. It is at Loges, a place near Saint Germain-en-Laye, that this traditional festival is celebrated on the first Sunday after Aug. 30, and we all know what was the condition of Germain-en-Laye in August and September last year, when the German hosts were on the way to Paris; but on the present occasion Germans and the siege seemed to have left very little impression on the quaint old place, as the people prepared to carry out the holiday in a more than usually energetic fashion.

The Palace of St. Germain—that gloomy five-sided castle built by Francis I.—is generally well known to English tourists, by name at all events, for it was here that James II. of England held his Court after his ejection from the throne; here that he lived till his death; here that he was buried, and here that a monument was erected to his memory by George IV., and repaired by our present Queen. It is not the gloomy old castle, however, that is the charm of St. Germain, but the magnificent terrace more than a mile and a half long, from which one of the most beautiful prospects in France can be obtained. The wood is, of course, the great attraction to

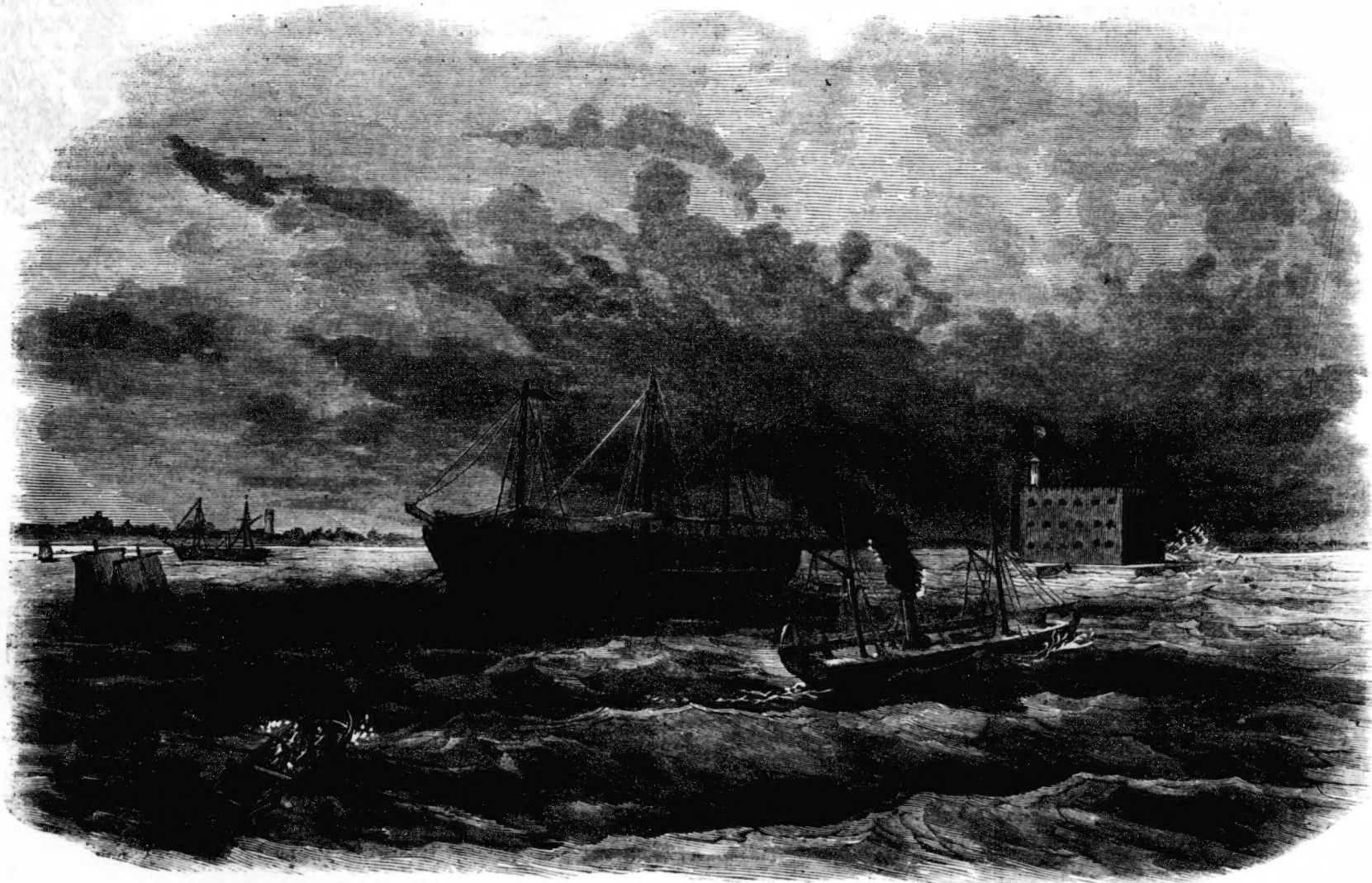
holiday-makers next to the terrace, and it is in the grand avenue that leads across the wood of St. Germain aux Loges—which once gave the name to a convent, and is now the locality of the Institution of the Legion of Honour—that the fête is held. There are no houses, no restaurants, no cafés, and so it is wonderful how any Parisian can endure to be present at it; but there are tents and cabins where everything is provided, and the preparations for cooking are on such an extensive scale that our Engraving represents only a little illustrative corner. For one must eat, and, as we are not yet herbivorous, there is a great business done in the roasting of fowls and the preparation of toothsome stews. A few stones and a collection of faggots from the wood are sufficient for a skilful operator in the science of the cuisine; and though occasionally there may be a little grittiness, who cares to be particular on such a day and under such circumstances?

#### FORT BOYARD, THE PRISON OF DETENTION FOR FRENCH INSURGENTS.

To people in England who read of the large number of persons arrested in Paris after the entrance of the Government troops and

the suppression of the Communists, it must sometimes occur to wonder where the prisoners are bestowed, either during their period of incarceration at home or for their detention until they can be conveyed to one or other of the places where transported convicts are, perhaps, eventually turned into colonists.

One of these prisons of detention is represented in our Engraving, and it is situated on the western coast of the island of Aix, opposite another fort, named Saumonards, which belongs to the island of Oléron, and not far from the island of Madame, where another fort bearing the same name as the isle is placed. The two islands of Aix and Madame are, in fact, the defences of the embouchure of the Charente, and Fort Boyard may be said to be the advanced sentinel, having the duty to scan the horizon. These forts and the hulks of the bay have all received their contingents of Communist prisoners, but most of them only await their deportation to other climes, so that they are confined between the thick walls or in the strong enceinte of the deep ditch until the transport-ships come and take their cargoes to New Caledonia, to Algeria, to Cayenne, or other fields of labour and enterprise, where these fierce, restless spirits may find scope for their hitherto misdirected energy.



FORT BOYARD, IN THE ROADSTEAD OF THE ISLE OF AIX, IN WHICH FRENCH INSURGENTS ARE CONFINED.





FUNERAL CEREMONY AT METZ IN HONOUR OF FRENCH SOLDIERS KILLED DURING THE LATE SIEGE.



## FUNERAL CEREMONY IN MEMORY OF THE FRENCH KILLED AT METZ.

Even during the German occupation of Lorraine there have been times when national jealousies and bitter feeling were subdued, and the great human sympathy that binds men together by common hopes, loves, and needs had influence to quench for a time the heat of animosity. The service for the memory of the dead has been the occasion of much softened feeling, and French and Germans, each having observed the ceremony for their respective comrades killed in the cruel war, treated each other with the silent respect and mutual forbearance with which such an occasion would certainly be associated.

At Metz the funeral observances were those for the French, and we publish an illustration representing a scene during the procession—a scene which was full of melancholy interest, for many of the mourners were the bereaved women and children left destitute by the death of the brave fellows who perished in the sorties or during the siege. As early as six o'clock in the morning the cathedral bells began to toll for the dead, and by eight o'clock the great building was crowded. At the same hour, in the Protestant church and the Jewish synagogue solemn observances were also conducted. At ten o'clock the whole population of Metz joined the procession by the Chamblère gate to the cemetery of the same name, situated at about a quarter of an hour's walk from the city. The band of the "Enfants de Metz" led the cortege, playing funeral marches; and the *Pompieri*—the only French organisation permitted by the Prussians—formed a kind of body guard to the clergy, in the midst of whom was seen the calm and dignified face of the Archbishop. Then followed the members of the French municipality and the *Gardes Forestiers*.

The streets were deserted, the shops completely closed, except in the case of those belonging to a few Germans. A general order had bidden Prussian, Saxon, and Bavarian soldiers to keep within barracks, in order to remove any probability of a display of ill-feeling; and the solemn ceremony was observed with complete quietude and decorum.

## A PLEA FOR ENGLISH HEDGEROWS.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES.)

Hervey Cottage, Broadway, Stratford, Essex, E.,  
Sept. 12, 1871.

DEAR SIR,—For upwards of nine years I have been, with much pleasure, a constant subscriber to your well-conducted Journal, and have so much respect for its opinions that I have come to look upon it and its contributors as old friends whose views I can always sympathise with and very generally endorse. It is this feeling that prompts me now to write to you on your article touching the above subject. Your contributor appears, at the expense almost of his own convictions, to have "gone in" for, not to say a "fenny," but witty general denunciation. The first duty assigned to the poor condemned hedgerows being that of separating the dusty roads from the fields, starts with somewhat of a fallacy, it being a well-known fact, and one universally admitted by agriculturists, that the dust from the roads is of great and almost incalculable benefit to the crops; it kills the fly, and in many ways prevents obnoxious insects from destroying the tender growing plants, in so much that the old saying has become a proverb, "A peck of March dust is worth its weight in gold." This is one of its uses, and, although important, still subsidiary to others of greater moment. The hedgerows taking all manner of serpentine lines, as so keenly ridiculed by your contributor, best attests the proof that our forefathers did not so plant them without a purpose; and clearly the purpose was not that of educating the taste or with a far-off ideal of utility in connection with any future Kensingtonian or other popular mode of elevating the taste, it being held by many very good authorities that it is from the simple fact of a great many of our larger landholders grubbing up the hedgerows and the modern system of so-called "high-farming" that the cattle disease has so developed here, there being no protection afforded to the cattle against our constantly-changing temperature, often suddenly almost from one extreme to the other. Thus it is that the hedgerows, assuming all manner of apparently meaningless forms, are so contrived that in some part or other of the field, or within easy distance, protection is afforded the poor cattle, let the weather be from which quarter it may.

One more plea and I have done. We have recently been legislating for the protection of birds; and it has afforded me much satisfaction that you have so warmly advocated this; but, if we fall to and grub up all our hedgerows, where are the poor birds to find shelter and means of rearing their young? I will venture to say (speaking experimentally) that the loss sustained by the space occupied by the hedgerow and its shadow for a few feet (which loss only occurs on arable land) is very, very far more than compensated by the good effected by the small birds it attracts and shelters, who make these their head-quarters, whence issue these dire foes and destroyers of the grubs and insects so inimical to all crops. The banks or hedgerows where vermin congregate in sufficient force to do any appreciable harm is so small a percentage on the whole that it is scarcely worth considering.

Fearing I have already occupied too much valuable space, I will not enter on the topic raised by Lord Derby, and alluded to by your contributor, as to production, and assuring you the high esteem in which I hold your Journal is the only apology I make for this intrusion,  
I remain, yours truly,  
H. H. B.

[Our respected correspondent, whose letter we willingly publish, will excuse us if we say that it seems to us that he has let his enthusiasm for hedgerows and his somewhat unreasonably conservative love of things as they are run away with his judgment as well as his sense of fairness. We never proposed to "grub up all our hedgerows;" we only proposed so to deal with "useless" ones, of which there exist miles upon miles, as anyone may see who will use his eyes as he passes through the country by road or by rail. So much for the fairness of our correspondent's criticism. We think it will not be difficult to disable his judgment as well. Taking his pleas serially, we may remark that it seems to us the effect of road-dust on vegetation must be of a divided character, to say the least of it. If dust "kills the fly," and so benefits some crops, it destroys the plant itself, and so ruins others. For the same reason that dirt on the human skin is injurious to health, dust on the leaves of plants is detrimental to vegetation: it stops up the pores and hinders the free action of the organs of respiration, exudation, and evaporation. Why is it that the ridges next to highways rarely produce such good crops as those in more remote portions of a field? Why, because of the dust, chiefly. Why do flowers, shrubs, and trees thrive so much worse in London gardens and squares than in the country? Again, because of the dust, chiefly. Why do florists sponge the leaves of their geraniums and other plants? To remove the dust, and so clear the pores. Why is syringing with pure water good for fruit-trees rose-bushes, and so forth? Because it washes off the dust. Our correspondent is so enamoured of dust that one might fancy him a Scotchman deeply imbued with the once national proverb that "the clartier things are the coarser." Speaking of proverbs reminds us that "H. H. B." mistakes the signification of that touching March dust, which does not imply that dust of itself is good, but that when there is dust in March the weather must be dry, and therefore suitable for seed-sowing. Our friend's notion that grubbing-up hedges and "high farming" have developed cattle plague is decidedly at variance with our observations. On the moors of Scotland there are literally no hedgerows at all, and yet cattle plague is less prevalent there than elsewhere. High farming is nowhere carried to such perfection as in the Lothians, and yet the Lothian farmers are not specially afflicted with rinderpest in their cattle. There may have been a method in the madness that influenced "our forefathers" in arranging their hedgerows in the eccentric fashion they seem to have followed, though we suspect that accident and subserving a temporary convenience had more to do with the matter than design. But assuredly subsequent changes—the making of new roads, railways, &c.—destroyed any method that ever was in the system, and made a rectification

of frontiers—boundaries, we mean—necessary; and that is what we contended for in the article that called forth our correspondent's letter. We repeat that "were all useless hedgerows removed, enough would remain for beauty, enough for shelter," and enough for all beneficial purposes, "while the food-producing portion of the soil would be enormously augmented." In this opinion we are fortified by Mr. J. J. Mechi—no mean authority—who, in a letter to the *Times* the other day, heartily condemns "little fields, great timber-incumbered hedgerows, deep ditches, and every unprofitable topographical arrangement."]

## ANOTHER FATAL COLLIERY EXPLOSION AT WIGAN.

The explosion at Messrs. Pearson's and Knowles's Moss Pits, Ince, near Wigan, bids fair to rival in the sensational character of its incidents, if not in the number of lives sacrificed, the terrible catastrophe at Lundhill. On Tuesday, at the very outset of the operations begun for the recovery of the bodies of the colliers entombed in the fatal 9 ft. seam, several others were added to the slain; and it is fortunate that this list does not include the names of the Government inspector for the district and many of the most eminent mining engineers in South Lancashire. Early on Tuesday morning the engineers, who have hitherto directed the operations at the colliery, met to consult as to the desirability of reopening the shafts. Among the number were:—Mr. George Gilroy, of Ince Hall Collieries; Mr. William Brigham and Mr. John Brigham, Rose Bridge; Mr. Peter Higson, Government inspector; Messrs. John and Jacob Higson, mining engineers; Mr. Elias Dornier and Mr. Alfred Hewlett, Wigan Coal and Iron Company; Mr. Thomas Knowles, Mr. J. Pearson, Mr. William Pickard, miners' agent; Mr. Watkin, Pemberton Collieries; Mr. Israel Knowles, the underlookers, and the underground manager. It was the unanimous decision of these gentlemen to proceed with the opening of the shafts, as the state of the temperature was a sufficient indication that the fire had been extinguished; the thermometer recorded a general heat of about 70 deg. during the whole of the week, but opposite the mouth of the 9 ft. seam, in which the explosion occurred, there appeared to have been a gradual decrease. The resolution of the engineers was not made public, as it was certain to attract a vast crowd to the pit, but the work of uncovering both shafts was proceeded with shortly after three o'clock. Mr. Jacob Higson was looking over the mouth of the upcast, which had then been partially opened—for at neither shaft had it been thought advisable to remove the whole of the covering—and he remarked to Mr. Knowles that all seemed so quiet below that a descent might be attempted very shortly. He had scarcely completed his sentence, and was still looking over the shaft, when he heard a rush of wind from below. This was followed by a long blast of fire, which in its turn was succeeded by a report almost equal to that of a park of artillery. The engineers and officials standing at the mouth of the upcast shaft were blown a dozen yards on to a railway, and they had hardly time to look round before a dense cloud of smoke issued from the downcast, above which was a sheet of flame, which it is stated rose to a height of from twenty to thirty yards beyond the head-gear. Mr. P. Higson, the Government inspector, was at the moment of the explosion walking between the two shafts; he was knocked down, but his injuries were not serious. On a visit being paid to the downcast shaft it was found that nearly everyone there had been severely hurt, and at least four or five of the workmen employed had been killed. Mr. John Knowles, son of Mr. Thomas Knowles, had his leg broken and sustained other severe injuries; Mr. Pickard, miners' agent, was hurt so badly that he had to proceed home, hardly able to walk; Mr. J. Pearson, Mr. Jacob Higson, Mr. Thomas Knowles, Mr. John Higson, and Mr. Inspector Dickenson, one of the county police, were all severely shaken. The openings made into the pits had been very small, for at neither shaft had more than half the covering been taken away. The gentlemen who held the consultation are among our most eminent mining engineers, and among them there was not a shadow of doubt, from the indications above ground, that all was safe below. The explosion has set at rest all question as to the existence of a fire in the mine, a point which had been gravely debated during the last week by those who, having friends below, deprecated the sudden closing of the shafts. There cannot now be a doubt that a fire is raging, and that the explosion has been caused by the fresh air being driven upon the fire. The force of the blast was terrific, materials were blown thirty or forty yards, and the damage done to the head-gear is considerable. It is scarcely possible to give any description of the excitement which has prevailed at Wigan and the surrounding district. The report was heard for several miles, and the sheet of flame was seen distinctly at several places within the borough. As the messengers who were dispatched for surgeons hurried through the streets of Ince the people, who had crowded to the doors of their houses, and among whom the report had spread that another pit had fired, tried to stop them at almost every step, and begged piteously for information about the disaster. The colliery banks were soon covered with spectators, but these were kept at a considerable distance, another explosion being feared. The number killed is believed to be five, including one man named Shuttleworth, who is thought to have fallen down the shaft; but it is quite possible that others may have perished in the same way. The foreman joiner, Ashurst, a married man, with five children, has been blown to pieces; the foreman sinker, Farrimond, is also among the dead; and the browman, Walsh, who has two sons lying in the seam, has perished. At the downcast shaft, just before the explosion, Ashurst had been lowered to the platform which had formed the covering of the shaft, and from which a very considerable quantity of the puddled-clay used for sealing it had been removed; that he might run no risk of falling into the pit. A rope had been fastened round his body, and he was also supplied with ropes to attach to the planks for the purpose of bringing them to the surface. Ashurst's remains were frightfully mangled, and long after the explosion a limb belonging either to him or to the man who is missing was found on the side of the engine house opposite to the downcast shaft. The fear of another explosion prevented a close inspection of the brow. It was the unanimous opinion that it would be wanton risk of life to make an attempt to replace the stopping, and only one other way of extinguishing the fire could be suggested—that was to flood the colliery. Three sources of water supply were at hand, so it was decided to make an attempt to drown out the fire without delay. The laying of pipes has commenced.

Another terrific explosion took place at four o'clock on Thursday morning, and several smaller explosions followed. The only damage done has been to set the headgear on fire, and finally to scatter it completely. The steam fire-engine from Wigan has saved the engine-house from destruction. No further lives have been lost, as no persons are allowed to approach the upcast shaft, from which there has ascended for several hours, with awful force, a dense pillar of smoke three times the height of the colliery chimneys, completely eclipsing the sun. Vigorous measures have been taken to fill the colliery with water from the Leeds and Liverpool Canal.

Wigan was, last Saturday afternoon, the scene of an above-ground catastrophe. A large cotton-mill, one of the oldest in the place, which had been standing for some time for machinery repairs, was reopened a week ago. All was apparently safe at two o'clock p.m., when the hands left; but about three a fire broke out in the upper stories, which extended downwards, and gutted the building. Some of the fire brigade were injured by falling materials.

A SAD CASE OF DROWNING has occurred at Richmond. Two youths, the sons of a gentleman named Andrews, residing at that town, went out boating, when one of them undressed for a swim. After a while his brother, who remained in the boat, lost sight of him, but, being short-sighted, thought he had pushed out for the shore. It is supposed, however, that he had been seized with cramp, and it was some time before the body was found.

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## IGNORANCE OF THE LAW.

SOME weeks ago a young Jew, a minor, was taken before a police magistrate, charged with having given a false name and address for himself and a Jewess (also a minor) in getting the banns of marriage put up. He was committed for trial, and the trial has just ended in a sentence of eight months' imprisonment. As the culprit was leaving the dock he asked the Judge if his marriage was a valid one, and was told that it was not.

It was all very well to laugh at the love-letters of this foolish young couple, but they were evidently very fond of each other—long after the marriage, be it observed; and there is something pathetic about the question of the poor young man to the Judge. Nor can anyone declare that the case is without its deep moral difficulties. According to the modern law of marriage in England, informalities, if mere informalities, in the manner in which matrimony has been contracted, are very tenderly dealt with—that is to say, no union will be declared void for any error, or even misrepresentation, which is not serious, and plainly intended to evade the law. On the other hand, a contract like that effected by this youthful Hebrew and his damsel is absolutely void from the beginning—not merely voidable, upon the application to the proper Court of some proper party, but in itself null and worthless. The legal status of the child, if any child should arrive in such a case, would follow that of its parents. Even if on their attaining their majority such a couple should again marry, there is no process known to English law—as there is in Scotch—by which a child born in the meanwhile would be placed in all respects in the position of an ordinary citizen.

It is difficult to apportion blame and approbation in dealing with so strange a story. On the one hand, it may be said that if the parents of the girl had not interfered all would have gone well, and, as nobody would have known that the marriage was void, nobody would have been the worse. On the other, it may be alleged that, however ignorant the husband was a month ago, the time might have come when he would have known more, and then he might have discarded his "wife" and children and contracted a regular marriage with another woman. But then, as the young people were strongly attached to each other, and only broke the law in order to get united, the man would gladly have been married over again if the girl's parents had suggested it. So that, on the whole, the sympathies of most outsiders will not follow those who began the prosecution. The lover did very wrong, but it is plain that he did not know *how* wrong he was. His intention with regard to the girl was straightforward and good, and all he wanted to do was to evade the opposition of her parents.

What may well strike one with surprise, almost amounting to incredulity, is the ignorance betrayed by these young people of a very simple law. The plain and useful object of the declaration which precedes the granting of a license and of the calling of the banns, is that people who by law are entitled to object to the marriage may do so if they can. That the lovers knew something about this is clear; else, why the little falsehoods which have undone them? But so ill-informed were they, and so full of superstitious notions about the tying of the knot, that they felt sure they could never be interfered with if once "married," and they did not pause to ask what a legal marriage was. The law now steps in and tells them that they were not married at all. It is not even necessary to go through the slightest ceremony to disjoin them, for, by law, they never were joined. This must be very mortifying to them, especially if they have since learnt how easy the law of England is in such matters, provided there be no patent fraud. If a pair of minors can make out a legal "residence" anywhere in British dominions—and the legal construction of "residence" is very lenient—they may put up the banns wherever they please. It is the business of their enemies to find out any flaw in the "residence," and very difficult indeed to undo a marriage contracted in the real names of the parties. We believe the author of "Ginx's Baby" has suggested that philanthropic men should go about lecturing on social science, law, and so forth, to the uneducated or half-educated classes. If anyone were to start a course of lectures, free, on the law of marriage he would be sure of an audience, and also of doing some good. Whether he would not also do some harm is more than we undertake to say. But it is impossible not to "drop a tear" over the sad story of this Hebrew pair. Some years ago there was a case in which a young man ran away with a fair ward in Chancery. Her guardian prosecuted, and the youth was imprisoned for a long term. But the



maiden was true to him, and when she reached her majority the loving couple were reunited, the bells of half a dozen churches ringing to celebrate the event. In the absence of any knowledge which might make such a wish unwise, it is scarcely possible not to wish that in this case the story may end in some similar way.

### SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

PRINCE AND PRINCESS LOUIS OF HESSE, with their five children, are at Balmoral on a visit to the Queen.

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH has accepted an invitation to dine with the 1st City of London Artillery Brigade on Oct. 2.

THE KING OF THE BELGIANS is again on a visit to this country; on this occasion, we regret to say, on account of ill-health. His Majesty arrived on Monday at Ryde, Isle of Wight, and has taken a suite of apartments at the Pier Hotel.

DONNA ISABELLA, ex-Queen of Spain, and her children are about to return to the hotel they recently occupied in the Avenue du Roi de Rome, in Paris. Don Francois d'Assise, the husband of the ex-Queen, has already returned to that city.

MR. GLADSTONE visited the Denbigh and Flintshire Agricultural Societies' Show at Mold on Wednesday, but, to the disappointment of many, was not present at the dinner in the evening.

THE RIGHT HON. JOHN BRIGHT, M.P., accompanied by Mrs. Bright, visited Peebles on Monday, having driven from Melrose, where he has been staying since Friday week. He drove into the town about half-past one o'clock, and before returning visited Niddpath Castle, nearly a mile from the town, and the Chambers Institution. Mr. Bright appeared to be in good health.

MR. BUTT, Q.C., has been returned without opposition for Limerick. The nomination, which took place on Wednesday, was unusually tame. Mr. Butt was represented by his son.

COUNT ORLOFF has been appointed Ambassador from Russia to the French Republic.

THE INHABITANTS OF SCARBOROUGH have decided to give a public reception to the Prince and Princess of Wales on Oct. 30.

PRESIDENT GRANT has appointed Mr. William M. Meredith and Mr. Caleb Cushing United States counsel at the Geneva tribunal under the Treaty of Washington.

MR. DISRAELI, according to a statement made by the Rev. H. Henderson at a meeting in the county of Antrim, the other day, has consented to allow his name to be given to the Salford Orange Lodge.

THE MAYOR OF CORK has had the cross of the Legion of Honour conferred upon him in recognition of his services in connection with the success of the French wounded in the late war.

M. VICTOR HUGO is suffering from an attack of pleurisy, which, it is said, causes some uneasiness to his family.

DR. BUCHANAN, of the Medical Department of the Privy Council, has been appointed to make a special inquiry into sanitary matters in Birmingham.

THE MONEY-ORDER SYSTEM is to be extended to the United States on Oct. 2.

A QUANTITY OF MILITARY STORES were consumed by fire at Colchester last Saturday morning.

THE PRUSSIAN MINISTER OF JUSTICE is elaborating a bill making civil marriage obligatory in all cases.

THE DUNDEE SCAVENGERS have struck for higher wages. They get 1s. 6d. a week and want 1s. 6d.

A NEW LICENSING MEASURE, promoted by the Licensing Amendment Association, will, it is stated, be introduced next Session.

ISAAC PLUNKETT, an old soldier who served under the Duke of York in Holland in 1795, has just died at Norwich.

THE LIBERATION SOCIETY are about to hold a series of conferences in different parts of the country, to secure increased support for a disestablishment motion next Session.

DR. RUTHERFORD, who was for many years mathematical master at the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich, and the author of several works on mathematics, died, on Saturday morning, at Little Heath, Charlton, at an advanced age.

ALFRED MUNCEY, a letter-carrier attached to the south-eastern district, was fined 40s. at the Bow-street Police Court, on Tuesday, for delaying the delivery of letters.

A NAVAL MEDICAL PROFESSORSHIP is about to be established at Netley Hospital, and seventeen additional students, nominated by the Admiralty, will shortly join the school in Southampton Water.

MR. RAYNER, a chemist, of North-road, Islington, was fined £5, last Saturday, at the Clerkenwell Police Court, for selling a small quantity of oxalic acid labelled "effervescent nitrate of magnesia."

HUGH DUFFEY, a lad of fifteen, stabbed his brother John, about eighteen, at Edinburgh, in a quarrel on Sunday morning. The injured boy died on Monday evening.

AT THE WIGAN COAL AND IRON COMPANY'S NO. 1 FURNACE, on Tuesday morning, an explosion took place, and four men working at the front of the furnace were severely burned. Two are dangerously ill and not expected to recover.

MR. RUSKIN has founded a separate mastership for teaching drawing in connection with the Slade endowment of an art-professorship at Oxford. Mr. Ruskin proposes to open elementary schools, in the course of next month, in the University galleries, Oxford.

THE ROYAL MILITARY ACADEMY AT WOOLWICH has received forty-four new students this term. Among them is a "Queen's cadet," who is allowed to enter without payment—this being the first time that the Royal prerogative of free admission has been exercised for many years.

PAQUIS, a private in the 6th Chasseurs, who had been sentenced to death for desertion to the insurgents at Marseilles, on April 4 last, was shot on Saturday morning, near that place.

AT A MEETING OF THE CENTRAL NONCONFORMIST COMMITTEE, held at Birmingham, the schemes which have been issued by the Endowed School Commissioners were condemned as ignoring the principles of religious equality, and it was resolved to support an agitation against them.

A DESERTER from one of the corps engaged in the autumn manoeuvres, named David Langhlin, belonging to the 100th Regiment, has been taken before Mr. Lancelotti, a magistrate at Farnham, and ordered to be sent to Aldershot, where he will be tried by court-martial.

DR. LIVINGSTONE, according to news received from Zanzibar, had again been heard of to the west of Lake Tanganyika, whence he had sent to Ujiji, requesting his supplies to be forwarded. A young American was hurrying by forced marches to Ujiji, in the hope of carrying relief to the traveller.

THE PRIZES won by the English competitors in the Anglo-Belgian contest at the Wimbledon volunteer meeting last July were distributed, last Saturday, by Mrs. Colonel Chambers, who gave a garden party at Putney House in honour of the occasion.

SERGEANT HENRY LANE, a Bristol volunteer, winner of the Queen's prize at Wimbledon in 1867, and one of the best shots in the West of England, died on Saturday night, of gastric fever, after a short illness, aged forty-six.

THE EXCHEQUER RECEIPTS from April 1 to Sept. 16 were £29,098,784, being an increase of £616,635 on the amount received in the same period last year. The expenditure has been £32,973,243. The balance in the Bank of England on Saturday last was £1,135,769, and in the Bank of Ireland, £1,310,243.

A SMALL RUSSIAN SQUADRON, under the command of Vice-Admiral Posselt, and with the Grand Duke Alexis on board the flag-ship, passed down Channel on Tuesday morning, and subsequently steamed into Falmouth for the purpose of coaling. The squadron left Copenhagen on the 9th inst., and is bound for New York.

AN APPLICATION against the authorities of the Hampstead Smallpox Hospital for an habeas corpus to produce a child named Elizabeth Belline, who had been a patient in the hospital, but is unaccountably missing, was heard before Mr. Justice Brett, in chambers, on Tuesday, and was ordered to stand over for the production of affidavits to rebut an allegation that she had been removed to a convent.

MAJOR AUGUSTUS SPILLER, of the 7th Royal Fusiliers, committed suicide, at Gosport, in a very shocking manner, last Saturday. While sitting at breakfast with his wife and cousin, he seized a table-knife and nearly severed his head from his body. Death was almost instantaneous. The deceased officer had been ailing for some time since the return of the regiment from India, and had only recently resumed his duties, after three months' sick leave. On the evening before the suicide he was in a more than usually depressed state of mind.

### THE LOUNGER.

Bettws-y-Coed, North Wales, Wednesday.

THE weather here has suddenly turned cold; the ferns and the leaves on the trees are changing colour; the swallows are congregating after their manner, and clearly intend soon to take flight to warmer climes; and in the morning and the evening we are glad of a fire. But I shall not return to town yet. Why should I? It is glorious weather for tramping across the hills; nor is the country less beautiful than it was a month ago: indeed, at no time is this mountainous region more beautiful than it is in autumn, when the ferns and many of the trees change to a bright gold colour, whilst the firs and the grass still keep green. Mountains clothed in garments of green and gold! Can anything be more beautiful than that? We have had a wonderful time of it here during the last month. The weather has been splendid, not continuously dry. Continuous drought is not the best weather in such a district as this, as the rivers and streams in such weather get too low. Two or three wet days in a fortnight, to fill the rivers and streams and set the waterfalls tumbling and roaring down their cataracts, is what the sojourner here likes, with fine weather in the intervals. But by fine weather I do not mean all hot blazing days; indeed, very bright, hot days are not desirable. What we like best are days when there are clouds in the sky, and wind abroad to set the clouds in motion, casting their shadows, with streaks of sunlight between, upon mountains and vales. But even under a dull, leaden sky there are beauties discernible by those who have eyes to see them. On Monday I and my party walked to Capel Curig, and there left the road, turning to the right, and climbed over a rising moor all covered with heather, starting the grouse on our way; and, after an hour's tramp, came to the end of the moor and looked down upon Llyn Cowlyd, a lake about two miles long and half a mile broad, flanked on each hand by lofty mountains, whose bare sides sloped down to the water's edge. The sky was dark and lowering, and the lake was black as night, calling to mind the fabled Stygian lake in classic story on which Charon plies his wherry. On our way to Cowlyd and home again we saw many mountains—Moel Siboa, the Trefan, the Glyders, Carnedd, Dafydd, with others of lesser note, but all in the gloom looking wondrous weird and strange. Well, the weather I have described we have had. Now, no more at present about Wales. Yes, one word more. We were not such lubbers as to return from Cowlyd by the way we went. We never do that. We walked on a path, if path it can be called, running, or rambling, meanderingly, along the brow of the left-hand mountain to the other end of the lake; travelled a wild, pathless valley, somewhat boggy, climbed up a steep hillside to the right of us, struck a path at the top which rapidly descended for a couple of miles into Trefriw, whence, partly by car and partly by train, we got to Bettws-y-Coed again. I calculate I did thirteen miles that day, which, considering the nature of the road, was not bad for an old man.

Mr. Arthur Kinnaird has turned against the Prime Minister! Mr. Gladstone, when he heard of this, might appropriately have exclaimed, "Et tu, Brute!" for a more faithful follower of the Prime Minister than Mr. Kinnaird was no Minister ever had. Indeed, the member for Perth was more than faithful; he was obsequious; was, indeed, so zealous, and so often rose to defend his chief, that at last when he rose he was greeted with laughter. But if Mr. Gladstone did, when he heard of the defection of his friend, exclaim "Et tu, Brute!" we may be quite sure he did not add "Then fall, Caesar!" He would be more likely to say with the man in the play, who, when he heard that a customer whom he had sued for debt had threatened to withdraw his custom, exclaimed, "Well, we shall survive that!" But will Mr. Kinnaird withdraw his support from Mr. Gladstone? Not he. He is intimate with the Prime Minister, and gets, or thinks he gets, éclat, kudos, from that intimacy. I should like to bet a handsome sum that in no important division next Session will Mr. Kinnaird vote against the Government.

The loss of Truro to the Liberal cause is not surprising. I have looked over the returns for this borough in 1859-65-68, and it is my opinion that the Conservative party is the strongest, and that in an equal fight the Conservative would win. But the men were not well matched. The Conservative Colonel Hogg is well known. He sat in Parliament as member for Bath three years, and occupies the conspicuous position of Chairman of the Metropolitan Board of Works. In short, he was just the man to unite the Conservative party. But Mr. Jenkins was, as we say, not a good card to play, but a very bad one. Mr. Augustus Smith, under any circumstances, would not, I think, have won. Mr. Jenkins split the Liberal party to pieces, and made a Liberal victory quite impossible. The *Times* and the *Saturday Review* will have it that this is another proof that the Government is losing ground. The Government is losing, or rather has lost, ground; but this Truro election is no proof of it. If I had been an elector for Truro I should have hesitated to vote for Jenkins. I have read "Ginx's Baby." It is very clever, exceedingly amusing; but its political economy is execrable, and shows that, though the author can cleverly expose the evils of society, he is quite incapable of discovering the causes of the evils and ridiculously incompetent to suggest remedies. I have a book upon my table which Mr. Jenkins would do well to study—viz., "Pauperism: Its Causes and Remedies," by Professor Fawcett.

Yes, the Government has lost ground, is losing ground, and, I fear, will lose it. Nay, they appear bent upon losing it. They seem in some things to be quite infatuated. The conduct of the Committee of Privy Council on Education is to me quite inexplicable. I single out Mr. Forster, as some of the papers do, because the Marquis of Ripon is at the head of the Committee, and, for aught I know, Mr. Forster may not approve of what the Committee is doing. I allude to what has been done at Portsmouth and other places. The school boards at these places resolved that the poor children whose fees are to be paid out of the rates shall go to the board schools, and not to the denominational schools. The Committee of Privy Council remonstrates against this decision; says that the children whose fees are paid out of rates ought, if their parents wish it, to be allowed to go to denominational schools. That is, after the years and years of struggle we had to get church rates abolished, we are in this side way to have them established again. Then see what that oligarchy, the Endowed Schools Commission, is doing. What they did in the case of the Emmanuel Charity you know. Here is another case. The Bedford charity has been hitherto managed by elective trustees—to wit, the Town Council and eighteen trustees, elected by the householders by ballot, and it has been managed well. Herein I speak what I know. Well, this oligarchy of three—Lord Lyttelton, Mr. Arthur Hobhouse, and the Rev. H. G. Robinson—have drawn up a scheme which utterly destroys the present managing body, and places it mainly in the hands of a body over which the people of Bedford will have very little control. At the latter end of the last century Parliament granted to the householders the privilege to elect by ballot eighteen trustees to check the old corporation, then practically self-elected. This privilege these three potentates—albeit Parliament itself and all our school boards are now elected by household suffrage—propose entirely to sweep away. It remains to be seen whether Government will support the scheme. It supported the scheme for the management of Emmanuel College, and it will most likely support this. Well, if it should, will Bedford return two Liberals, as it did in 1868? But this is only one instance. All over the country these oligarchs are at work, and everywhere they are making enemies to the Government. Was I not right, then, when I said that the Government is infatuated?

The Licensed Victuallers' Association are carrying out their threats. During the Session these victuallers openly declared that they would give all their influence to the Conservatives; and at Birmingham, I see, they had a Conservative in the chair at one of

their gatherings—to wit, Mr. Bromley-Davenport, member for North Warwickshire. They had also, as chief speaker, Mr. Newdegate, the other member for North Warwickshire. Both these gentlemen were up to the occasion. The chairman, it may, indeed, be said, fooled his audience to the top of their bent. Mr. Bromley-Davenport is well known in the House. He does not often speak, but when he rises all hush to hear him—not, though, because he is expected to say wise things, but because everybody knows that he will say wild, extravagant things. At Birmingham he told the people that he visited Glasgow, and that all the time he was there he never saw a sober man; and this is quite characteristic of the madcap member for North Warwickshire. Mr. Newdegate was very solemn, as he always is; but he made a capital electioneering speech, and got rapturous applause from the "pubs."

### THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

The return of the PRINCE OF WALES company, and the reopening of the theatre after a brief holiday, are matters which have the greatest significance. The popularity of the management, and the vitality of what may fairly be called Robertsonian comedy, since it is peculiar to our lamented friend, and has never been approached, was never attested in a more emphatic manner than by the brilliant audience which assembled to see "Caste," as revived. By brilliant I do not merely mean the assemblage of well-dressed women and their cavaliers seen at every first night, but the cream of literary and artistic society, which now, alas! is met with but at the French plays and Mrs. Bancroft's theatre. For point, wit, and human interest Mr. Robertson never reared anything to beat this thoroughbred. One might fancy, indeed, that the seed of this delightful little play was scattered long enough ago, for I find it springing up in one of his earliest-published stories; and unquestionably the chief characters in "Caste" were drawn from life, in those early days when the author must have wandered in and out "the little house in Stangate," and studied the eccentricity of old Eccles, as well as the good points of his hard-working daughters. As the comedy breathes it is likely to live; and, as acted now, it has nothing to come near it at this moment. Much as I admire Mr. Coghlan, I may be pardoned, perhaps, for lamenting with renewed sorrow the untimely death of Mr. Younge, schoolfellow and almost brother to our lost author. We cannot in "Caste" fill the place of either Mr. Robertson or Mr. Younge; and this verdict will be, perhaps, echoed by those who admire, as I do, the graceful and pure touches of the author, and the memory of Mr. Younge's great impersonation, which is one of the most brilliant in modern theatrical records. For the rest, there is nothing but praise to award. Mr. Hare as Sam Gerridge, Mr. Honey as Eccles, Mr. Bancroft as Hawtree, and Mrs. Bancroft as Polly, seem to me quite perfect; and it is a real treat to get back Miss Lydia Foote, as clever and pathetic an actress as we have on the stage. As plays go at present, there is no knowing how long "Caste" will run. Those who have not seen the play in town or country will be taken off at once, and those who are familiar with every line will go and see "Caste" again and again. Mr. Wilkie Collins will, I expect, have to wait some time before he gets a hearing on this most popular stage.

The revival at the Gaiety of "The Serious Family," an admirable farcical comedy by Morris Barnett, is noticeable because the impression will doubtless be that off the Haymarket stage nothing could be made of it. Those who predicted a sorry fate for the old play would be agreeably surprised if they could see how well it has taken, and how effectively it is played at the Gaiety. The comedy has situation and merit enough of its own to "go" anywhere, for it almost acts itself. But when such assistance is obtained as Mr. Stoye—a very quaint and meritorious actor, as was shown by his Justice Stareleigh in the Pickwick trial scene—for Aminadab Sleek; as Mr. William Rignold—a clever member of a clever family—for Captain Murphy Maguire; as Miss Ada Cavendish for Mrs. Dalmaine; and as Mrs. Leigh for Lady Creamley, a double reason is given why the comedy should be a complete success. Plays of this unambitious kind are well suited to the Gaiety staff, which devotes itself with industry to the light literature of the stage. Mr. Alfred Thompson has written a libretto on "Cinderella," which has been musically illustrated by M. Emile Jonas, and this, with Mdlle. Clary, Miss Julia Mathews, Miss Loseby, and Miss Tremaine in the principal characters, will be produced either on Saturday or Monday. At Christmas time Mr. W. S. Gilbert and Mr. Arthur Sullivan will do their best to show that we in England can produce an opera-bouffe worth hearing. Mr. J. L. Toole returns at Christmas, and some weeks after will give us a new drama by Mr. Boucicault.

Mr. Mallandaire, a musical composer of some note, has been starring in the provinces with Hervé's "Chilpéric," and so successfully that he has taken the ROYALTY to go on with it sooner than break up his company. The opera went uncommonly well, though, if the truth be told, Miss Augusta Thomson is alone able to be fairly called an actress and a musician. Those who can act—for example, Mr. A. Bishop—cannot sing; and those who can sing just a little cannot act. Mr. Rouse and Mr. Oliver Summers, the low comedians, are old hands; but I do not think Mr. W. H. Tilla, the Chilpéric, will set the Thames on fire. If I were Mr. Mallandaire, I should retain all the music, but hack away mercilessly at the dialogue—the most tedious nonsense an audience ever listened to.

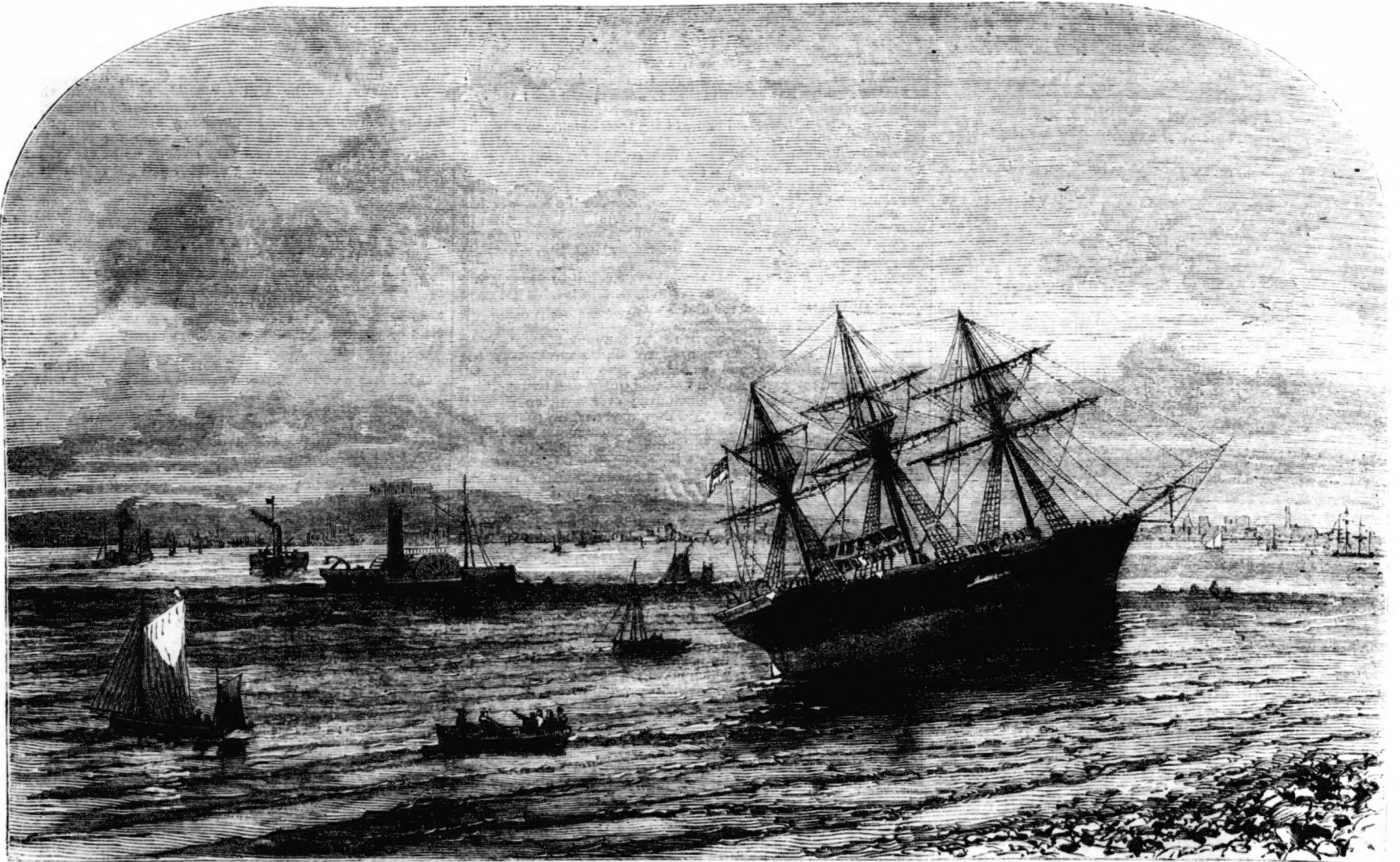
Mr. Hengler, well known as a provincial circus proprietor, has converted to his own equestrian uses the Palais Royal in Argyll-street, and, thanks to the good taste of Mr. John O'Connor, the place has been capitally decorated. If the enthusiasm of a first-night audience means anything, then Mr. Hengler has made a hit. I have seen better circuses, but I have seen far worse. I should strongly advise Mr. Hengler, however, to look to his laurels, and to bring out all his best things—clown-tricks, sensations, and all, for the Amphitheatre in Holborn has some better cry than "oldest establishment." Both circuses are energetically managed, and we shall see which of the Kilkenny cats disappears first.

Saturday (to-night), as usual, will be a very busy time. Mr. Halliday's long-promised version of "Rebecca," founded on Sir Walter Scott's "Ivanhoe," is produced, with immense pomp and pageantry, at Drury Lane, and I trust next week I shall have to record its complete success. "Cinderella" is also announced at the Gaiety, and a new drama, under Mr. Shepherd's management again, at the Surrey. I wish sincerely I could be ubiquitous.

THE HOSPITAL FOR SKIN DISEASES in Great Marlborough-street has received a second donation of £1000 from "V. S. T."

OLD HEROES AND MODERN WARFARE.—Alphonse Karr contributes the following to the *Univers Illustré*. It is supposed to be a dialogue between a group of heroes—dwellers in Plato's dark domain—who have just heard a recital of the late war from a defunct soldier of Gambetta:—Leonidas—"Why, with these new arms the Persians would not have taken five minutes to get rid of me and my three hundred heroes." Hercules—"I should like to know what good my strength would be in dealing with people who would never come within a thousand yards of my club?" Samson—"And what a pretty figure I should cut with my donkey's jaw-bone." Lord Charles Hay—"When at Fontenoy I took off my hat, and said, 'Fire, gentlemen of the French Guard.' Count d'Hauteroche—"And then I answered, returning your salutation, 'Fire, gentlemen of the English Army, we never fire the first.'" Lord Charles Hay—"There's an end to all such chivalrous usages. They are now at such a distance as to render the voices of the combatants inaudible to each other. Why, with the new system of artillery, we cannot discern with the eye the uniforms of the troops whose guns decimate us." Condé—"I don't see how it would be possible to throw my truncheon into the ditch and charge for it." Horatius—"Yes—Alas! the heroic time is past when a single man could defend a bridge against four men. The Cæsar would have made short work of me if armed with chapeaux." Roland of Ronoveaux—"And how could I, with my Durandels, keep off a hailstorm of those conic balls with which the degenerate soldiers of modern times gain victories?" Cambronne—"Yes; and my dialogue with the English Guardsmen. What mortal could hear a *bon mot* at the distance of a league?"





H.M.S. RACER AGROUND NEAR RYDE PIER, ISLE OF WIGHT.

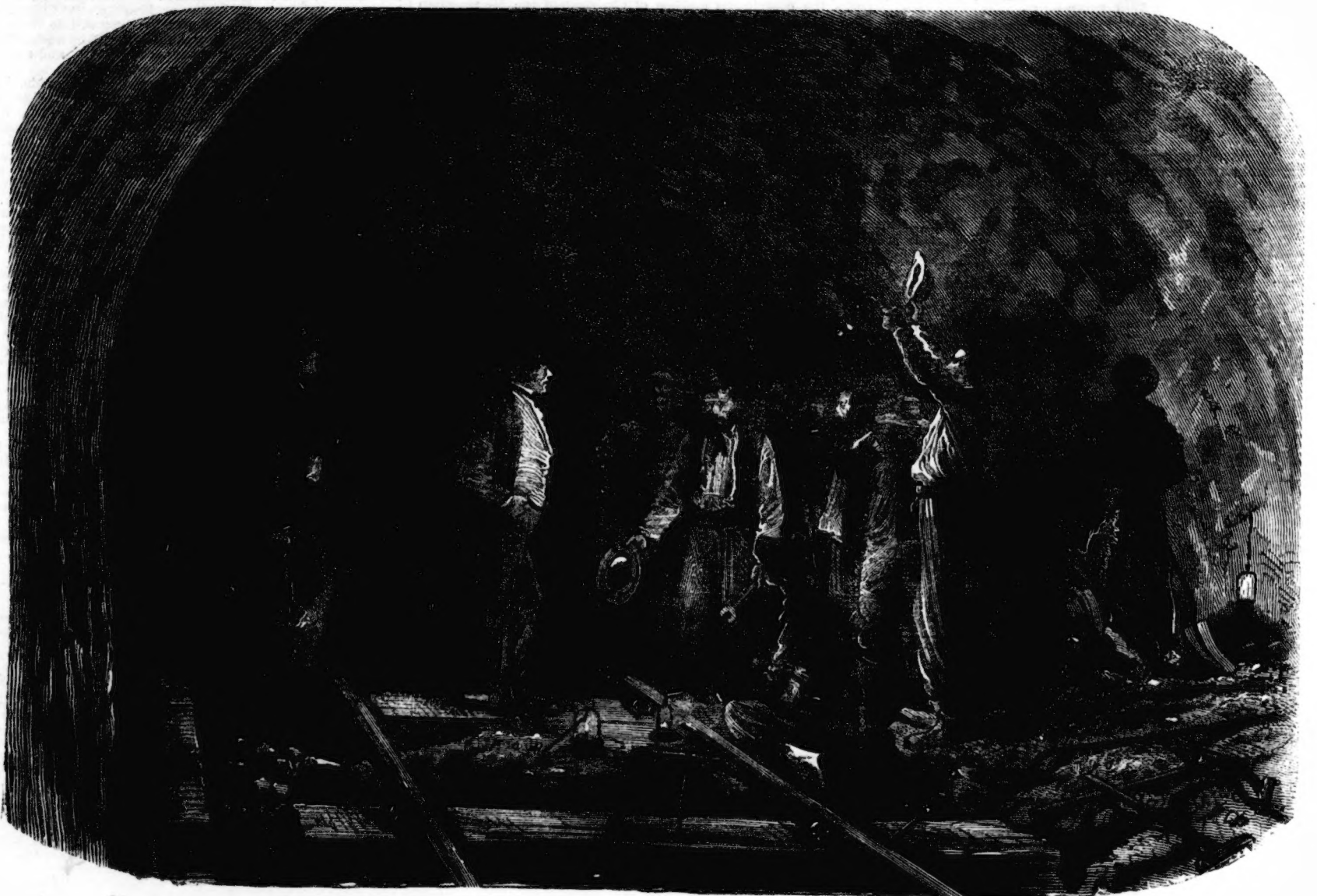
**STRANDING OF H.M.S. RACER.**

THE running aground of H.M.S. Racer, near Ryde Pier, Isle of Wight, which was reported in our last week's Number, would probably at any other time have attracted but little attention. The number of casualties of this sort, however, which have lately happened to ships of the Royal Navy, gives every such event an unwonted degree of importance. So many mishaps of almost the same description indicate that there is something wrong in the training—something defective in the capacity or carefulness—of our naval officers which calls for amendment. It is, however, supremely absurd to blame the present, or even recent, administrators at the Admiralty for these disasters, because the effect

defective must come of causes in operation long before Mr. Childers reformed the Board of Admiralty or Mr. Goschen succeeded to the post of First Lord. Our naval officers must be better trained and taught to be more careful; and the latter quality certainly—perhaps both—will be inculcated by the wholesome severity of the course taken by Mr. Goschen in the case of the Agincourt.

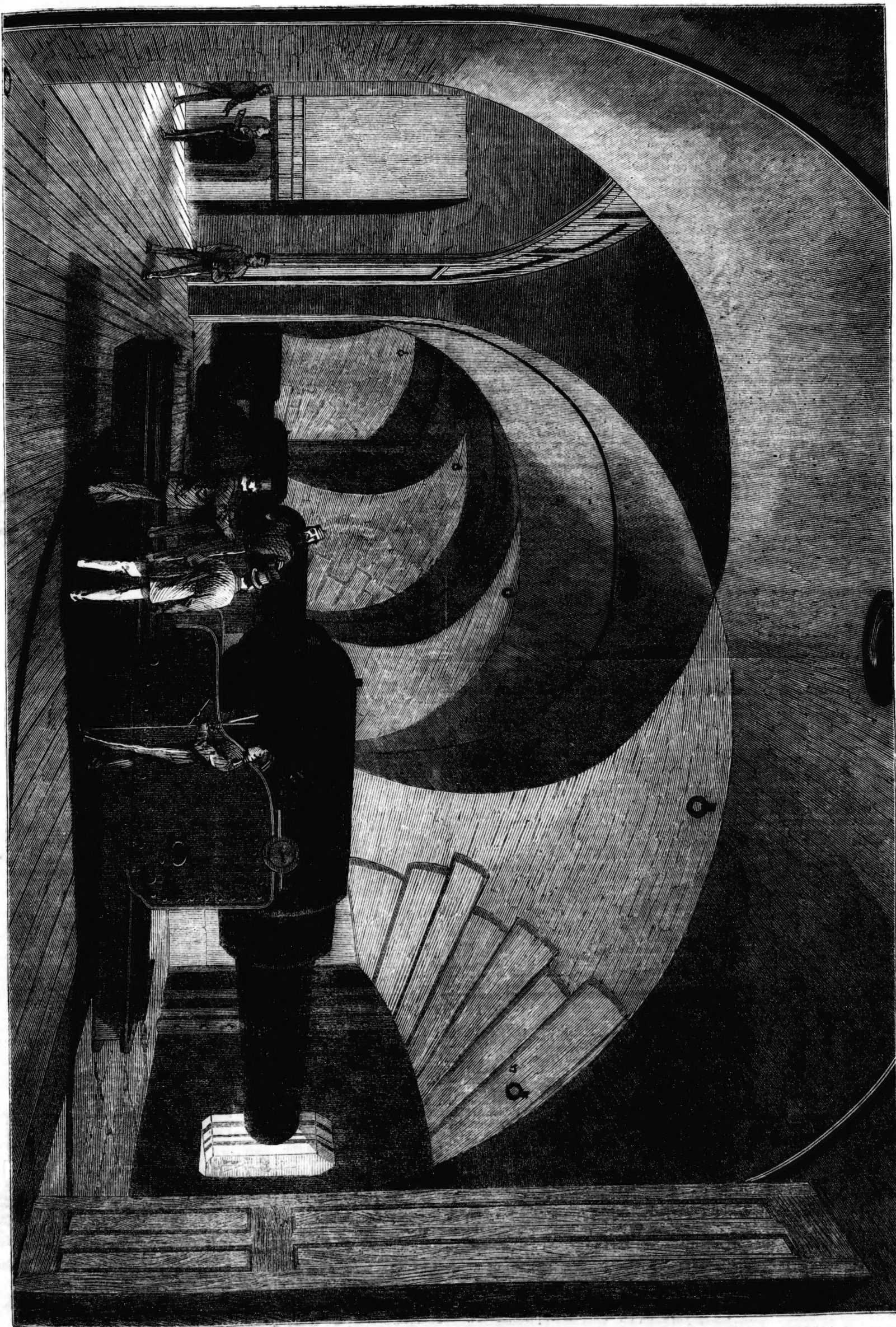
The accident to the Racer, portrayed in our Engraving, occurred about half-past eleven on the morning of the 11th inst. She had sailed past Ryde Pier from the westward in the morning. There were only a few airs of wind—hardly more than a draught—blowing from a northerly direction, and she had spread every inch of available canvas, and was making the best of what little wind

there was, sailing very free. The tide was ebbing rapidly. After passing the pier she fell in with a strong current running in the same direction as the wind was blowing, and she drifted on to the Sands, taking the ground about midway between the pier and the Roman Fort. Here she stuck tight, in spite of every effort to get her off. The accident was observed from Ryde Pier, and the Duke of Edinburgh, a new and powerful steam-packet, belonging to the Port of Portsmouth and Ryde United Royal Mail Steam-Packet Company (Limited), which was lying there with her steam up, was at once dispatched to the assistance of the stranded vessel. She reached her in a few minutes after she touched the sand, and, making a hawser fast, tried to tow her off. Finding the task was



COMPLETION OF THE MONT CENIS TUNNEL: FIXING THE LAST RAIL.—(SEE PAGE 178.)





INTERIOR OF GARRISON POINT FORT, SHERBROOK.



too much for her, the Duke of Edinburgh hung a flag of distress in the rigging, and the authorities directed the Prince Consort, the largest of the fine fleet of steamers belonging to the above company, to go to her assistance. The two vessels tried for some time to pull the Racer off the bank, but their efforts were fruitless. As the evening tide came in, however, the Racer gradually righted herself, and about eight o'clock she was towed off the sand-bed by a powerful steam-tug from Portsmouth. She was then taken to Portsmouth to be overhauled. A court-martial has been ordered to inquire into the occurrence.

#### THE GARRISON POINT FORT, SHEERNESS.

This new fort, rapidly approaching completion, is situated at the extreme north-west corner of the Isle of Sheppy, at the confluence of the Thames and Medway, and its object is the defence of the Government establishments at Sheerness and Chatham. Its form is somewhat like that of the letter D, by which the guns are enabled to command a compass of more than 180 deg., from the Nore (distant about 3½ miles) in one direction, to Saltpan Reach (distant four miles), in the opposite.

The guns, thirty-eight in number, are arranged in two tiers, those on the lower gun-floor being 9-in. 12½-ton, and those on the upper 10-in. 18-ton muzzle-loading rifled guns, throwing 300 lb. and 450 lb. shot respectively, with service charges of 50 lb. and 75 lb. of powder, to a distance of over four miles. There are also six lighter guns for sweeping the shore and flanking the neighbouring fortifications. The magazines being situated in the basement of the fort, many feet below high-water mark, and far out of reach of shot and shell, powerful lifts are provided for raising the ammunition to the level of the gun-floors.

The fort, consisting of casemates, is constructed mainly of immense blocks of granite, set in cement and bolted together in the strongest possible manner, and in the intervals between the piers of masonry are fitted the shields, composed of three 5-in. and five 1-in. iron plates, inclosing two thicknesses of brick and asphalt, presenting a total of 20 in. of solid iron, securely bolted to teak and iron port frames and oak and iron backing, which is again bolted through the granite. The aperture in the centre of the shield through which the gun is pointed can be closed at pleasure by an iron shutter.

In the rear of each gun is a barrack-room for the accommodation of the detachment working the gun. Altogether, quarters are provided in the fort for above 1000 men. The ventilation of the casemates is effected by means of funnel-shaped apertures in the crown of the arch, leading to flues communicating with the atmosphere. It was originally intended to have placed two revolving turrets on the summit of the fort, containing each two most powerful guns. This has been abandoned for the present.

The terreplein, or roof, is constructed with concrete and asphalt, on which are a signal station and a telegraph. From here a most magnificent view is obtained, extending up the Medway to Chatham, up the Thames to Langdon Hills, and thence, over the Essex shore and Shoeburyness, out to sea, till, on the east, the prospect is bounded by the distant cliffs of the Isle of Thanet, at Margate, nearly thirty miles away.

The channel of the Medway, facing the fort, is not more than three quarters of a mile in width; and on the opposite shore, at the Isle of Grain, very powerful works are in course of construction, and will be provided with guns of equal calibre to those at Sheerness, thus ensuring a cross fire at the mouth of the Medway that would try the strength of any vessel attempting an entrance to the river.

The work has been carried out by Messrs. Henry Lee and Sons, of London, the granite being supplied and dressed by Messrs. Freeman, of Millbank. The shields have been supplied and constructed by Sir John Brown and Co., of Sheffield.

Our illustration represents a portion of the lower gun floor, with some of the 12½-ton guns in position. The barrack-room is shown on the left, with partition removed, and lift for ammunition on the right.

#### THE NEW WINDOWS IN GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL.

AMONG the many recent additions of painted glass to Gloucester Cathedral are the clerestory windows, and the great window of the south transept, the erection of which has just been completed by Messrs. Hardman, of Birmingham, at the cost of Mr. T. Marling, Mayor of Gloucester. This window consists of double forelight transomed windows, the upper portion being filled in with tracery of the late Decorated period. The highest opening of the tracery, a sexfoil in the apex, contains the conventional representation of the Holy Spirit, a dove with wings extended, and golden rays descending towards the other portion of the window. Below this, on each side, are two large trefoil-headed spaces, in each of which is one of the cherubim with outstretched wings. In the sexfoil at the head of each of the two great divisions of the window are represented the cross keys, emblematical of St. Peter, whose life is portrayed in the great lights below. All the smaller portions of the tracery are filled in with quarried glass, in each of which is the letter P in Gothic character. Descending to the principal openings of the tracery, we find under each of the sexfoils two large trefoil-headed spaces. Beginning at the dexter side, or left-hand of the spectator, the first couple of openings illustrate Christ walking on the waters. The corresponding pair of openings of the second division of the window contain the giving of the keys. In the first light is our Lord, surrounded with sheep and lambs, giving the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven to St. Peter, who, in the second light, is seen reverentially kneeling to receive the gift and commands of his Divine Master. Below these four spaces is some beautiful tracery, in the four larger lights of which are repeated the keys, and in the smaller ones the "P." We now come to the sixteen great lights that form the main portion of the window. The eight upper lights contain scenes in the life of Our Lord in which St. Peter was an active participant, while the eight lower lights depict events of which the account is to be found in the Acts of the Apostles. In the first light, again, beginning at the dexter side, is the miraculous draught of fishes. In the next light we have a continuation of the same subject, in the call of St. Peter and St. Andrew. In the third light we have the raising of Jairus's daughter. The fourth light represents the scene of the Transfiguration. The four lights of the sinister division of the window are filled with scenes more particularly connected with Our Lord's Passion, but in which St. Peter is still an active agent. In the first is represented the washing of the disciples' feet after the last supper. In the second light is the betrayal of Our Lord; in the third light we have the denial. The last light represents the scene at the sepulchre. We now proceed to the eight lowermost lights, which represent events that occurred after the ascension of Our Lord. The first is the cure of the lame beggar. The next light represents the death of Ananias; thus mercy and justice are contrasted in the first two lights; in the next two are grief and joy. The third represents the widows showing the coats and garments. In the next light is the raising of Tabitha to life. The fifth light of this series represents the baptism of Cornelius. In the sixth light we have St. Peter preaching. The seventh light shows the deliverance from prison. The eighth and last light represents the final scene of the crucifixion of St. Peter. With regard to minor details, it will be sufficient to say that the upper tier of lights are treated on a quarried background of the old Gloucester pattern, examples of which remain in the cathedral; and the bases of the same lights are composed of three arches, treated like the piers of a bridge, underneath which is a flowing stream of water, with fishes, in allusion to the original occupation of St. Peter. The lower tier of lights are on coloured backgrounds, alternately blue and red, the bases and other architectural accessories being in harmony with the period of the window. This window occupies a site of unsurpassed advantage as regards aspect and unimpeded light, and Messrs.

Hardman, says our authority, may well be congratulated on the undoubted success which they have achieved. The west window of the choir has also been filled with painted glass, most of which consists of the fragments of ancient glass found in the chapels of the crypt and elsewhere.

#### THE AUTUMN MILITARY MANŒUVRES.

FIRST ENGAGEMENT OF THE CAMPAIGN—BATTLE OF THE HOG'S BACK.

THE first battle took place, as announced, on Saturday. Sir Charles Staveley led his division (the third) against the Hog's Back; his right brigade attacked it in front, his left brigade marched upon Tongham to turn the west side of the ridge. But Sir Hope Grant, who commands the first division, was aware of the enemy's plans, and had blown up a bridge at Tongham, so as to check a turning force there. So the advance of the left brigade was stayed for a time considered long enough to have repaired a broken bridge, and thus it fell out that Sir Charles, with his right brigade, arrived on the Hog's Back and found that it had been evacuated by the first division. It was (says a military correspondent of the *Times*) an excellent position to defend; but in rear of it down the northern slope were too many fields impassable to a force ruled by Act of Parliament. If beaten or outflanked, Sir Hope could not have withdrawn the division in safety. His decision was therefore not only prudent, but even necessary. The writer proceeds:—

"For these reasons, because there was no opposition, and because the left, or turning brigade, was checked, it happened that Sir Charles Staveley pursued with one brigade only, the left brigade coming up behind him. He probably supposed that the manœuvres for the day were over, as the position he had to take was evacuated by the enemy. So he pressed on, without waiting to put his two brigades abreast again, and came to the foot of Fox Hill in column, where he found Sir Hope's division posted very strongly. So well placed were the infantry and guns that the attacking force could not face the fire, and was brought to a halt, a portion of it being ordered by one of the umpires to retire, as its position was untenable. Meanwhile, on the left of the attack, General Carey led his division, the infantry in two columns, the cavalry forming another, against the brave 2000 defenders at Hungry Hill. The route was circuitous, and the columns did not arrive till half-past eleven o'clock. The left brigade first touched the enemy near the western end of Hungry Hill. It advanced by a narrow road which led steeply upwards for a few hundred yards before debouching on the heathery hillside. No sooner was its approach discerned than a half-battery of Strangway's horse artillery dashed forward to meet it and came into action on the crest of a small shoulder within four hundred yards of the head of the column. There was no advancing against the 9-pounders. The head of the column halted and sent skirmishers into the fields on each side. As soon as their crackling fire was heard an umpire decided that the guns must retire. They did so instantly, but took up another position further back commanding the road. The horses leapt gallantly over a hedge into a field to the right of the road, and the guns came into action sure of a retreat through a gate behind them on the heath. On came the skirmishers from below, and what can three guns do against a cloud of skirmishers? They retired again to take their places on Hungry Hill, itself among hillocks and deep heather. At last the enemy was free to move on, for now the rounded shoulder of the hill concealed the head of the column from the guns. Just where the road met the heath a line of breastworks had been thrown up. Its defenders were rather in haste to retire, supposing the enemy to be only in front of them. They were right in the end, however, for just then the sound of fierce musketry fire was heard on their left, proceeding from the right brigade of Carey's division attacking the east end of Hungry Hill, where it falls with a bold drop to meet the plain. A messenger arrived at a gallop to demand the assistance of the guns which had originally stood in a work where the new attack was being made, but were brought out to meet the attack on the road. They were retiring, but obeyed orders, and started at speed to their old position. Arrived there, they found themselves face to face with the head of Carey's right brigade, already in possession of the works. It was no easy matter to make good their retreat down a steep and broken hillside to the plain. Some of their horses must have fallen before the fire of the infantry, and it is questionable whether they could have got away. Away they went as it was, and were soon seen galloping at a tearing pace to the next ridge, whence they could shell the assailants. The line of the defending army was now penetrated, Hungry Hill was taken, and a rapid pushing force might have cut off the whole of the defenders from their communication with their division on Fox Hill. It could hardly have been otherwise, seeing that some 12,000 men were set to hold a line which could not have been covered by less than 50,000—even 50,000 Englishmen. No doubt General Carey would have quickly formed such a column, and made for the space between the divided enemy; but just then, shortly after twelve o'clock, came a message from the Duke to say that he was to march his men towards Cove-common and encamp there. The firing did not cease, but the advantage of the opportunity was suffered to pass by. We were much struck on this occasion by the want of flexibility of the English line formation. Prussian company columns would have been formed instantly in such a case, even without a divisional order, and each battalion would have rushed down to the plain in a wavering but perfectly handy row of small bodies. Thus the battle was won, though Sir Hope's position had not been carried by assault, for his right was driven in, and might even have been cut off."

The writer quoted says there can be no doubt that the first trial of autumn manœuvres on English soil was a success. It was considered so by the Duke of Cambridge, who called all the commanding officers and the Umpire Staff together to hear from them several accounts of the proceedings. A good many complaints are mentioned by other correspondents. Mr. Cardwell (says the *Times*) correspondent with the first division) may have heard that the 3rd Dragoon Guards were left without proper food, under circumstances which appear utterly inexcusable, no matter who makes excuses or what the excuses may be. The same writer says:—

"The Rifles, at five p.m., had had, according to one informant, nothing to eat since the early morning. They were out on picket and outpost, and Prince Arthur slept under a hedge in his great-coat all night—and cold enough it was—among his men, and next day he was to be seen tramping along, with his haversack by his side, covered with dust, after hard work skirmishing all the morning to lead his men to resist the enemy on the Tongham. 'We are ordered not to beat them,' he said to some one who spoke as he passed, with an emphasis on the word ordered which gave one to understand his Royal Highness would like to try."

#### SECOND ENGAGEMENT.—BATTLE OF CHOBHAM RIDGES.

The fighting began again on Monday morning by Sir Charles Staveley breaking up his camp and advancing towards Chobham Ridges. There were two great obstacles to cross—the Aldershot line and the Basingstoke canal. While reconnoitring with his staff Sir Charles was nearly taken prisoner by Sir Hope Grant's outposts. Sir Charles's division soon took possession of the line, the Brookwood station affording opportunity for planting a battery of artillery, while the railway itself was lined with infantry, who kept up a destructive fire upon the home forces under Sir Hope Grant, holding an advantageous position in the undulating plain between Woking Cemetery and the long ridges of Chobham. Here Sir Charles was for fully an hour and a half kept in check, the bridge being supposed to be blown up. Directly it was repaired Sir Charles poured over regiment after regiment of infantry, the columns passing over at the double, and their appearance was the signal for a renewed artillery fire on both sides. The home forces now began to retire rapidly towards Chobham Ridges. Sir Hope Grant's gallant stand proved vain, for his men were driven back on all sides, retiring in excellent order. Sir Hope

Grant was, in fact, completely out-manœuvred. The retreat grew very rapid along the slope and valley below the ridges from Bisley towards Chobham village.

The *Times*' correspondent is of opinion that the fault of Monday's manœuvring was a reckless exposure of life on both sides. The regiments stood up and fired at each other as though they were so many stone walls. He says:—

"To-day was especially a lesson in tactics, as Saturday was in strategy, and both Generals handled their men well and cleverly. Some mistakes there were: for instance, when the Life Guards and two battalions of Foot Guards allowed themselves to be inclosed by skirmishers. The latter judiciously retired only just in time, but the former were ordered off the field by an umpire. The cavalry were little used. One of the Life Guard regiments, in conjunction with the 50th, amused itself out of bounds by harassing the baggage of the third division, till an umpire's order compelled it to desist. Risley-common is much too boggy and rutty for cavalry. As it was, a field-battery horse broke his leg; and how two regiments of the Prince's brigade crossed a nasty boggy creek without accident to life and limb is a marvel. First of all came the 10th Hussars, and about one hundred had crossed, most of the horses sinking to their haunches, cruelly straining and wrenching themselves, and narrowly escaping a roll over, when the Prince himself came. 'Keep to the right, Sir; keep to the right, Sir!' called the officer, who had been hurrying the men over at more risk than his equine philosophy dreamt of; but his Royal Highness knew what he was about, was very well able to take care of himself, and so was his pretty mare, who stepped quietly over without a fault. The Prince rode on, and not many more men had crossed to the officer's cry of 'You're finking, Sir! Come along, will you?' when a horse rolled over on its rider. It might have killed him on the spot, for it is just in a little matter such as this, sillily conducted, that a bad accident happens. Thanks to no one but Providence the trooper was not hurt."

#### THIRD ENGAGEMENT.—BATTLE OF CHOBHAM.

General Staveley resumed his attack on Tuesday morning on Sir Hope Grant, the men leaving their tents standing in both camps. The troops advanced rapidly through the wooded bottom lying between the encampments and the ridges of Chobham village, towards which it was expected that Sir Hope would fall back. This expectation was not unfounded, for his forces gave way with a facility that was somewhat suspicious. The cause, however, soon became plain, the attacking forces being led on till they found themselves descending into an open undulating plain, lined with slight intrenchments, from which the guards kept up a galling fire. The attacking forces soon drove them from line to line, but only to find fresh difficulties in front. As Sir Charles Staveley's and General Carey's force came on in a half circle they found the centre towards which they converged had been turned into a formidable series of redoubts, surrounded by ditches lined with riflemen, and Sir Hope Grant's heavy guns opened fire upon them. Sir Charles, however, sent his men forward in long lines, tempting the Life Guards and the Blues out from beneath the sheltering cannon and into a charge. The charge of the cuirassiers proved a failure, for the infantry formed square, and the Guards retired to manœuvre and make futile demonstrations in the rear of the redoubts. The attack, failing again and again upon the left and centre, a dash was now made on the right, apparently through the coming up of General Brownrigg's brigade, with which were Colonel Hawley's rifles. This was the signal for fire to be opened from a redoubt on the enemy's left; and when the order to cease firing was given the invaders were in full retreat.

The Special Correspondent of the *Times*, writing on Tuesday night, says:—"London is safe for the present. Sir Hope Grant has won a signal victory over the combined forces of Staveley and Carey in a very satisfactory manner—all the more so because it is scarcely possible to conceive he could have lost it, even if it had not been ordained that the battle was to be won. The operations on Monday forced the first division to retire, and the second and third divisions to concert a combined attack upon its position covering the approaches to the valley of the Thames, the railway, and the road to London by Egham. In all manœuvres of camps of exercise allowance must be made for scenic effect without reference to strategy, or it might be doubted if Sir Hope Grant could have got away so easily from Fox Hill the other day, or if any General would have moved out of his camp at Chobham to attack two enemies' corps, each of force equal to his own."

Another correspondent writes:—

"The officers' call sounds, and on an open space beside the deadly batteries, with their sandbag walls, a throng of men such as gathered on Bisley Common after Monday's fight, but never before in England. There may be two hundred horsemen, some horsewomen, people on foot and in carriages; but it is in the horsemen that the interest centres. First, not in rank in the field, but in the notice of all, is the Prince of Wales, in the dress of his regiment, sitting his horse as an English gentleman should, his healthy and handsome face a little tinged by the sun of this autumn. There is the Duke of Cambridge, a practised, hard-working soldier, ready to serve his country as she would fain be served. There are the plain uniform and the lined face and grey eyes looking out so keenly from under the helmet of Blumenthal—one of the right hands, for it had many, of that army which has altered the map of Europe for many a day. Other uniforms are to be seen, gay and curious. The fez of the Turk, the képi of the sabreur of a soldierly face bronzed and worn by years of Algerian sand and sun, and many another strange pattern of martial head and body dress. There is more than one statesman, many nobles, and the throng is not without men foremost in letters and law, men who may be buried in Westminster Abbey and called great. These are the working bees. Drones there are, enough and to spare; but take it from its best to its worst, and in no hall of Parliament or saloon of the season shall you find a throng so various, remarkable for so many different reasons, so well worth watching for the ten minutes it holds together, while the Duke is speaking to his officers, as that which a military spectacle has gathered together on this acre of waste land."

JAMES ELLIOTT, a shopkeeper, living in Wentworth-street, Spitalfields, has been fined £3 and costs, or two months' imprisonment, at the Workhouse Police Court, for allowing boys to gamble for sweetmeats and other things in his house with an instrument termed "the dolly." Mr. Bashly said that if the defendant were brought before him again he should impose the full penalty, as it was difficult to exaggerate the evils which such a course was calculated to produce.

INFANT MORTALITY.—Last Saturday afternoon Dr. Hardwicke, Deputy Coroner for Central Middlesex, held an inquest, at the Edinburgh Tavern, Newington-green-road, on the body of Leopold Solomon, aged ten months, son of an engraver, living at 2, Cammarthen-street, Stoke Newington. The deceased had been in a delicate state of health for some time, and the parents, who were of the Jewish persuasion, had endeavoured by all means in their power, to rear the deceased. They had consulted numerous physicians, including Dr. Bateman and the physicians of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and on the morning of his death a medical gentleman was called in, but in spite of every exertion he died. He was fed on Liebig's extract of meat, and milk, and every possible attention was paid by his parents. Mr. Henry Cockerton, M.R.C.S., S. Southgate-road, said he was called in to see deceased on Tuesday morning last, and found him dead, he having been suffering from diarrhoea for the last three weeks. The post-mortem examination showed the cause of death to be exhaustion from diarrhoea, and no doubt this was one of the many cases where children suffer from the foulness of feeding-bottles and sour milk. The mother had not sufficient breast milk, and consequently resorted to artificial food instead of using the ordinary milk. He should recommend the use of the Aylebury condensed milk, for it would keep sweet any length of time; and, from its strengthening and flesh-forming qualities, it was particularly adapted for sickly infants. The Coroner remarked that no doubt the numerous deaths of infants from diarrhoea were mainly caused by the mothers not having sufficient breast milk, and consequently being compelled to resort to other food, which, being adulterated, caused these derangements of the system. He quite agreed with the remarks of Dr. Cockerton, and thought some steps might be adopted to prevent unfair dealers selling articles calculated to injure the public health. In some portions of the Continent these unfair parties were very severely dealt with, and no doubt if the matter was taken up in this country the system would be dropped and the rate of infantile mortality would be on the decrease. The jury returned a verdict of "Death from exhaustion, consequent on diarrhoea."



## VERDERERS' COURT, EPPING FOREST.

Last Saturday, for the first time since 1848, a Court of Verderers for Epping Forest was held at the Castle Hotel, Woodford. The stand which has been made against inclosures and encroachments on the forest for some time has resulted in bringing about the revival of this ancient Court, which has been long in abeyance; and, the proper number of verderers having been recently completed in consequence of a requisition of the freeholders, a court of "attainment" was called, whereat all forest officers were summoned to attend, "as well as such of the freeholders as might have complaints to make in regard to trespass on the rights of the Queen and all her Majesty's subjects, both rich and poor, within this ancient Royal forest, who were there to be heard in open court as heretofore." At twelve o'clock the verderers, comprising Colonel Palmer, Sir Antonio Brady, Mr. Alderman Thomas White, and Mr. George Edward Wythes, took their seats, and a large number of persons interested were in attendance. Amongst them was a deputation from the Corporation of London, comprising Mr. Deputy Stapleton, Mr. Deputy Butcher, Mr. Deputy Bedford, Mr. Bengough, the City solicitor, Mr. Nelson, and Mr. Little, representing the Town Clerk. An association which has been established for resisting encroachments on the forest, and called the Forest Fund, was represented by Mr. Tindal Atkinson, barrister; Mr. Daniel, solicitor; and Mr. Smith, honorary secretary.

Proceeding with the regular business of the Court, the list of master keepers, purview rangers, and under-keepers was called. No one answered to the first-named officers, and it was stated that most, if not all, of them had been long dead, and their places not filled up. To the call for under-keepers, Robert Runding, a hale old man, answered, and advanced to the table amidst laughter and cheers caused by the fact that at last one out of a long list had responded to his name. He tendered a "presentment," which was to the effect that William Bulkeley Glasse, Esq., Q.C., of Lincoln's Inn, and Collier Bristowe, Esq., of Bedford-row, as lords of the manor of Woodford, had, at different periods within the last twenty years, inclosed above 220 acres of the forest in and about Woodford, and erected buildings thereon. As "reeve" he also made a presentment that few cattle were, owing to the inclosures, enabled to be placed on the waste land, the rights of the commoners being thus curtailed. He stated that there were only five brace of deer at present in the forest.

Thomas Longman, under-keeper at Loughton, "presented" that Robert West, of Hull Dare, lord of the manor of Theoden-Bois, in the forest at Loughton, had at various times inclosed 400 acres of land; the Rev. J. Whitaker Maitland, lord of the manor of Loughton, had in eight years inclosed 1600 acres, besides 360 which he had sold, and had cut down trees. A long list of persons, 121 in number, who had made inclosures, including those of the Bishop of Salisbury, the Rev. W. Watson, Messrs. Ind, Coope, and Co. (of Romford), was contained in the presentment, the number of acres exceeding 1700. In one case numbers of trees were cut down to make charcoal.

Mr. Tindal Atkinson, on behalf of two freeholders, made like presentments, and took the opportunity of saying that what the freeholders desired was that the obvious intention of the Legislature should be carried out—namely, the preservation of Epping Forest, as it is, for the public. Under an Act of last Session Commissioners were appointed to frame a scheme with this object, and, unless the Court of Verderers exercised its authority before the scheme could be prepared and approved by Parliament, there would be no forest left.

After several similar presentments, Mr. Metcalfe, solicitor to the lords of the manor of Loughton, claimed, in fairness, to be heard on their behalf, and stated that the inclosures which had been mentioned were not mere arbitrary encroachments, but had been obtained by agreement between the lords of the manor and the freeholders, and compensation paid. The right to do what had been done could be settled in a court of law; but what he could say now was that both the rights of the Crown to "vert and venison" and those of the commoners had been duly purchased and paid for.

Mr. Nelson, City Solicitor, said that what was certain was that the Rev. J. Whitaker Maitland had inclosed 1300 acres of land in the forest which had been open since the Conquest.

Mr. Collier Bristowe, for Lord Cowley, observed that it was not intended to interfere with the public, and it was never proposed to inclose Woodford-green, as had been alleged. Lord Cowley had parted with some land to the Wandstead local board of health, which was included in one of the presentments, and which had not been paid for. The village green it was intended to keep open for purposes of recreation, but it had been fenced in by the local board, and not by Lord Cowley, who was prepared to enter into any arrangement to preserve Wandstead Flats and Woodford-green as open spaces for public recreation.

Mr. Nelson stated that Lord Cowley had handed over eight acres to the local board and inclosed 534 for himself.

Mr. Saville, on behalf of Admiral Sotheby, said that that gentleman claimed the trees alluded to at High Beach as his own property, had marked them for cutting down, and meant to do it. The lord of the manor of Chigwell always had the right to inclose with the consent of the copyholders and commoners, and the public so called had no rights whatever. He avowed himself to be an advocate of the system of inclosures.

Mr. Deputy Bedford protested against what had been said in regard to Lord Cowley's rights, and still more strongly against the sentiments expressed by Mr. Saville. It was monstrous to assert that the public had no right to the enjoyment of Epping Forest. The Corporation of London had taken up the matter on behalf of the public, and would fight it out to the bitter end.

Mr. Tindal Atkinson said that it was now clear what was intended to be done—namely, to inclose and cut down trees as fast as possible before the Commissioners under the recent Act could frame their scheme; and he called on the Verderers' Court to interfere.

Colonel Palmer stated that the Court had full powers, and would exercise them. The verderers would consider the "presentments," view the places mentioned, and give their decision at the next meeting of the Court, on Oct. 26. The proceedings then terminated.

**POLLUTION OF THE THAMES.**—Notwithstanding all the laws which have been passed against the pollution of the Thames, the sewage of towns is still continually poured into it, and, in many instances, in dangerous proximity to the sources whence some of the supplies of water for London are obtained. One disgraceful instance of this pollution is to be seen at the railway bridge at Kingston, where a sewer, discharging the most loathsome matter, carries the sewage of this large and increasing town into the water, covering the river itself into a huge sewer, and infecting its otherwise beautiful banks with a fever-generating stench. One disagreeable feature of this pollution is that the fish attracts shoals of small fish, which feed upon the human excrement thus discharged. It is obvious that all the dangers of choleraic infection, as well as the dreaded evils of parasitic generation so much dwelt upon at the late meeting of the British Medical Association as likely to arise from the germs of town sewage, are increased through these infractions of the law.

**REGULATIONS FOR PREVENTING COLLISIONS AT SEA.**—The regulations for preventing collision require that ships shall carry a red light on the port or left-hand side, and a green light on the starboard or right-hand side, and that these lights shall be of such power as to be seen on a dark night with a clear atmosphere for a distance of two miles uniformly over an arc of ten points of the compass from right ahead to two points abaft the beam. There are very few good green side lights. In fact, the trials at St. Helens show that not one ship's green light yet sent there complies with the regulations as to distance and uniformity. Mr. Thomas Gray, the Marine Secretary of the Board of Trade, has collected a sum of £200 for the purpose of rewarding the lampmaker who will produce the most efficient and most simple green light that will comply with the regulations. Many makers and inventors will compete. We look on this offer of a prize of £200 as an effort on the part of the promoter likely to be of great use to everyone concerned in ships. It is to be hoped that Mr. Gray's will be made at Shoeburyness, and lamps should be sent in before Dec. 31 next.

## GOOD AND BAD NEIGHBOURS.

(By Cuthbert W. Johnson, F.R.S., in the "Mark Lane Express.")

It was an early observation of the cultivators of the soil that there are good and bad neighbours even in the vegetable world. The Roman farmers noticed the vigour with which the vine vegetated when planted near to the elm. They were wont to call that tree the husband of the vine, and it has been supposed that the elm was, in fact, first introduced into England by the then masters of our island when they made their vineyards.

They were well aware that, although there is "a friendship" between some plants, there is "enmity" between others. Cato, one of the very early Roman authors, noticed that the vine is at "enmity" with the cabbage. And these facts were observed by more than one author of the sixteenth century. Thus Conrad Hoesbach, who was born in 1518, remarks, in his treatise on husbandry, "because there is a natural friendship and love between certain trees, you must set them the nearer together, as the vine and the olive, the pomegranate and the myrtle; others," he continues, "have a natural hatred, as the vine with the filbert and the bay."

Modern cultivators have noticed other facts of a similar kind, as that the aconite-tree is a bad neighbour; the gardener makes the same remark as to the cabbage tribe; the agriculturist is well aware how well the corn-flower (*Centaurea cyanus*) flourishes amid his cereal crops, and in no other place, and how the poppy almost always attends his crops of peas. He further notices how very vigorously the plants of wheat and rye flourish amid his tares.

These observations have, within the last year or two, led in a few places to some very practical and successful trials with our root crops. These experiments are hardly so well known to the agriculturists of our islands as is desirable. They are not only valuable in themselves, but they appear to open a field of research which in all probability will lead to other important results. I allude to the growth together in the same rows of the swede turnip and the mangold. We are aware of the difficulty with which for some time back the swede has been cultivated in many portions of our island, and this to such an extent that in considerable districts its cultivation has been abandoned. It is therefore most important that it has been found again, to flourish on many soils when sown in conjunction with the mangold, and this not only in the best turnip soils, but on the poor, exhausted gravels of Bedfordshire—a county where the rainfall certainly does not aid the dryness of the soil, for the average annual fall of rain is there the least of all the English counties, being only about 20 in. (it was only about 15 in. in 1870). The mode of cultivation they adopt has been so well described to me by my friend Mr. John Purser, of Willington, near Bedford, that I need hardly attempt to give it in any other language. It was in a letter with which he favoured me in June of the present year that he observed, "I have grown now for six or seven years mangolds and swedes (not white turnips) together, and with great success—not a failure have I yet known. Upon our hot gravelly soil we sow all upon the flat: it is far better than on the ridge. My plan is this: I drill early in April four pounds of mangolds per acre, and another drill follows running one hole only, which is about a pint of swedes, in the same rows. When we set them out we leave as nearly as we can three, some only two, mangolds to one turnip. The swedes grow very large, and very sound and healthy. Before we adopted this plan our land required years to grow a turnip at all. We put them into pits or clamps by the second or third week in October, and they come out in the spring as sound and healthy as the mangolds. Very many other farmers near here are doing the same, and with equal success. We certainly grow a greater weight per acre than we ever have done with turnips only."

It being, then, established that the growth of certain plants is accelerated by having particular neighbours, we naturally inquire into the reason for this interesting fact. It is probable that it arises from some emanation either from the roots or the leaves of a plant which is grateful to its neighbour. It has been supposed by some rose cultivators that its fragrance is increased by having a leek or an onion for its neighbour. Phillips, who died in 1708, in his "Cyder," alludes to this opinion.

The French rose-seller's  
Her bud more lovely near the leek  
(Grest of stout Britons), and enhances thence  
The price of her celestial scent.

That plants excrete from their roots peculiar matters is a pretty reasonable conclusion, although almost all the chemical investigations directed to this question are attended with uncertainty, since in most of these the plants examined were placed in water, or other matters foreign to their natural position. My brother, Mr. G. W. Johnson, in his work on "The Science and Practice of Gardening," has given a very clear résumé of the evidence hitherto produced on this very considerable question. "If," he remarks, "the roots of plants do give out peculiar and varying matters to the soil which sustains them, it aids to explain why one rotation of crops is superior to another, as well as why following is beneficial. Following gets rid by decomposition of any offensive excrementitious matters, as well as accumulates that which is desirable to plants; and one crop may succeed better after some predecessors than others, because their exuvie are more salutary."

These facts may be all explicable by the supposition that roots emit into the soil various excrementitious substances. Let us, then, inquire whether this supposition has been substantiated by direct experiment. M. Decondolle, an eminent French philosopher, was one of the earliest supporters of this opinion; and M. Macaire and Macaire found that when barley and other grain were made to vegetate in pure chalk acetate of lime was formed in it, evidently by acetic acid (vinegar) being emitted by the young roots, and this, combining with the lime of the chalk, formed the acetate. M. Decondolle washed the soil in which the poppy had grown during ten successive years, and obtained from it a considerable quantity of acetate of lime.

The late Professor Johnston, from a series of deductions founded on chemical analysis, arrived at the conclusion "that the roots of plants do possess the power of excreting some of the substances which are held in solution by their sap on its return from the stem, and which, having performed their offices in the interior of the plant, are no longer fitted to minister to its sustenance or its growth. This excretory power is not confined to the emission of inorganic substances. Other soluble matters of organic origin are also permitted to escape into the soil, although whether of such a kind as must be injurious to the plant from which they have been given out, or to such a degree as alone to render a rotation of crops necessary, has not been hitherto well determined."

Liebig is also of opinion that the roots of plants throw out excrements. He remarks: "The experiments of Macaire-Prinsep have shown that plants made to vegetate with their roots in a weak solution of acetate of lead (Goulard's extract), and then in rain-water, yield to the latter all the salt of lead which they had previously absorbed. They return, therefore, to the soil all matters necessary to their existence." Again, the late Dr. Daubeny found that when a plant freely exposed to the atmosphere is sprinkled with a solution of nitrate of strontian the salt is absorbed, but is again separated by the roots and removed farther from them by every shower of rain which falls upon the soil, so that at last not a trace of it is to be found in the plant. When bulbous roots, such as hyacinths, are allowed to grow in plain water, this gradually acquires a brown colour. "It therefore," adds Liebig, "cannot be denied that excrements are actually given off by plants, although very possibly they do not produce there to the same degree."

Macaire, in his investigations to which we have referred, observed that when plants were made to grow in pure water for several days, soluble matter was certainly emitted from their roots, which could be detected both by its colour, taste, and smell, and also by chemical reagents, and that this soluble matter differed

very much with the kind of plant. He further observed that water charged with the excrements of a leguminous plant, although decidedly injurious to another plant of the same kind, suffered a plant of wheat, whose roots were immersed in it, to live perfectly well, while at the same time the yellow colour of the water diminished in intensity.

## RAILWAY AMALGAMATION.

SIR EDWARD WATKIN'S suggestion at the Sheffield railway meeting last week will commend itself, we think, both to the public and the shareholders. He suggests that the various railway throughout the country should in effect conduct their business as one company, dividing the traffic where there are competing routes, granting through-bookings from any railway station to every other station in the kingdom, with return tickets available by all routes, and saving working expenses by unity of management. It is easy to see how the public would gain by such an arrangement. With all the lines treated as a single concern the facility of communication would be multiplied, and, especially in the metropolis, passengers would have a selection of stations at which to arrive and depart, which would be beyond measure convenient. To mention only the South-Eastern and Brighton lines, it would be an obvious convenience for the travelling public if some of the Brighton trains ran into Cannon-street and Charing-cross, while the South-Eastern passengers would equally benefit by similar access to Victoria. The arrangement of trains could, in fact, be made the most convenient possible for the public without reference to the wish of particular companies to keep traffic for themselves. Another advantage would be, as regards London at least, that where there are double or treble lines to suburban places or coast towns, the trains might be so timed that instead of three or four starting all but simultaneously at certain hours, going by different routes, there would be trains at short intervals at particular hours of the day. The communication with Brighton especially could be made such that business men might easily be saved the hurry and flurry of special and express trains to take them to and from business. It would not take very long, the company may be assured, till such facilities, especially if accompanied by a judicious lowering of fares, would enormously increase business, the shareholders as well as the public being the gainers. How working expenses would be saved needs no explanation. We fear, however, that Sir Edward Watkin would hardly be prepared for the logical result of his suggestion—the adoption of the railways by the State. Still, it is plain that this is what his suggestion points to. The single amalgamated railway company would, in fact, be a State department; their business would be managed by officials almost as powerful and dignified as Cabinet Ministers, and subject to the same pressure of public opinion and criticism. They would be so important a confederacy that the State, with natural jealousy, could not but seek to control it. The result would be one which we should not deprecate, and we see in the suggestion one of the best proofs that the State management of railways is far from being a dream. One of the shrewdest of our "railway kings" proposes, as the best means of working our railways profitably, the nearest approximation to a universal State management which could have been devised. Following very closely upon Sir E. Watkin's speech, as above, has come the announcement of the conclusion of a "joint-purse agreement" between the London and North-Western and Lancashire and Yorkshire companies. The details of the arrangements are probably not yet fully settled, while the sanction of the shareholders of both companies will have to be given; but we may congratulate the shareholders of both companies and the districts to be affected, as well as the country generally, on the prospect. The arrangement will, in fact, be a great step towards the scheme of a general amalgamation which Sir Edward Watkin has broached. The North-Western is the leading line in the country, with a capital of £51,414,000 and a mileage of 1509 miles; and the Lancashire and Yorkshire is among the next in rank, with a capital of £23,792,000 and a mileage of 428½ miles. The aggregate capital of the two companies will thus be about £75,000,000—about a seventh of the railway capital of the United Kingdom, and in reality it will be more if we include the capital of the leased lines. The aggregate annual receipts of the two companies are at present upwards of £10,000,000, or nearly a fourth of the aggregate railway business of the country. We shall thus have a single company possessing this large share of the railway business of the country, and one or two amalgamations on a larger scale would speedily place the whole undertakings of this class virtually under one management. It is already one of the greatest securities of railway property that now competition is practically impossible, while there is little temptation to mutual competition on account of the magnitude of the business. Now that the advantage of the arrangement to the shareholders of both companies is perceived, we should anticipate that their example will be followed. The consequence, however, will be that, the existing companies being formed into a vast monopoly, the usual principles of dealing with monopolies will be applied by Parliament and public opinion. When 10 per cent dividends are in prospect, and railway shareholders have secured the utmost economy in working their monopoly, the public will clearly be entitled to participate in the advantages in every way—in lowered fares and rates as well as additional accommodation. The advantage of the situation will be that the united companies will be able to try experiments which single companies could not venture upon, and that they may concede much to the public, for the sake of future gain, without any serious risk of appreciable temporary loss.

Economist.

AT A MEETING OF THE COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL, on Wednesday, it was stated that a new contract had been entered into for the erection of the whole of the works connected with the new foreign cattle market at Deptford, and that they were expected to be completed by Dec. 15.

DR. HENRY ALLYNE NICHOLSON, late lecturer on natural history in the Medical School of Edinburgh, and author of "A Manual of Zoology," "A Text Book of Zoology," and other scientific works, published by Messrs. Blackwood, has been appointed Professor of Natural History in the University of Toronto.

MESSES. CASSELL, PETER, AND GALT have in the press, and will shortly publish, an elementary work on geography, by Professor A. H. L. Examiner in Physical Geography in the Department of Science and Art. The same firm have just issued an "Elementary Astronomy," by Richard A. Proctor, B.A., F.R.S., especially prepared for use in the old Board schools.

**GALLANT RESCUE.**—On Sunday afternoon some youths went out to bathe at the Crow Stone, at Leigh, Essex, when one of them, named Durrant, son of the engineer at the Victoria Pottery, ventured too far from the shore and was carried away by the ebb tide. Neither his companions nor three men near were able to help him; but a boy named Hills, son of a fisherman, coming up, plunged in with his clothes on, seized Durrant, who was bigger than himself, and, after battling stoutly with the tide, succeeded in bringing him to shore. Durrant appeared to be dead, but his companions revived him by rubbing his body with sea-sand.

**THE PUBLIC HEALTH.**—Last week the aggregate mortality in London and sixteen other large towns of the United Kingdom was at the rate of 18 deaths annually to every 1000 persons living. In London 2244 births and 1122 deaths were registered, the births being 78 and the deaths 76 above the average. The deaths in London included 57 from cholera, 1 from typhoid fever, 1 from diphtheria, 1 from scarlet fever, 1 from measles, 1 from whooping cough, 1 from smallpox, 1 from erysipelas, 1 from tetanus, 1 from hydrophobia, 1 from rabies, 1 from plague, 1 from typhus, 1 from relapsing fever, 1 from malaria, 1 from yellow fever, 1 from cholera, 1 from typhoid fever, 1 from diphtheria, 1 from scarlet fever, 1 from measles, 1 from whooping cough, 1 from smallpox, 1 from erysipelas, 1 from tetanus, 1 from hydrophobia, 1 from rabies, 1 from plague, 1 from typhus, 1 from relapsing fever, 1 from malaria, 1 from yellow fever, 1 from cholera, 1 from typhoid fever, 1 from diphtheria, 1 from scarlet fever, 1 from measles, 1 from whooping cough, 1 from smallpox, 1 from erysipelas, 1 from tetanus, 1 from hydrophobia, 1 from rabies, 1 from plague, 1 from typhus, 1 from relapsing fever, 1 from malaria, 1 from yellow fever, 1 from cholera, 1 from typhoid fever, 1 from diphtheria, 1 from scarlet fever, 1 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THE INSURRECTION IN ALGERIA: COMBAT AT TIZI OUZOU, WITH VIEW OF A IV' NIN, VILLAGE.



**ALGERIA.—ENGAGEMENT AT TIZI OUZOU.**

Our Engraving represents one of the latest incidents of the insurrection in Kabylia, the suppression of which has been one of the most difficult tasks of the new Government of France. The mountainous character of the country and the energy and endurance of the natives have prolonged a struggle which has left behind it several sad proofs of the slight tenure by which a distant colony can be secured. The French army has, however, acquitted itself well in executing a very arduous task. General La Croix, who commanded the Constantine division, commenced operations on Aug. 6 against the Minor Kabylia, a territory comprised between Constantine and Djidjelli, extending from the interior mountains of Djurjura to the sea. The insurrection extended as far as Mils, and it became necessary to act vigorously. As the General desired to inspire terror amongst the revolted popular tribes, he proceeded to the very midst of the tribe of Zouarra, whom he compelled to submission in the manner noticed by us in a former descriptive article; and, on hearing of what had befallen their comrades, the Ouled-Asker of Djidjelli and the Beni-Khattad of Mils, representing the principal tribes of Oriental Kabylia, came to head-quarters at Fedj-Beinson to ask for grace.

Mohammed Ben-Fila, with about 1200 insurgents, occupied the villages of Beni-Ourtiar and Ouled-Rabah, situated on the Oued-Herra. The French columns were directed against this force, which they soon forced towards the river, afterwards pursuing them to the rock of Sidi-Marouf, and inflicting great loss upon them. After this engagement General La Croix operated against

Fedj-el-Arba. All the tribes of the district—the Beni-Amram, the Ouled-Bel-Afou, the Beni-Afer, the Djimla-Beni-Ider—hastened to submit themselves, either in the French camp or in the town of Djidjelli. The Beni-Kettab did not await the advance of the troops, but at once submitted, and were disarmed, as were the other tribes, by order of the General.

At the camp of El Makra, on Aug. 21, the two Sheriffs of Oriental Kabylia, Mohammed Ben-Fila and El Haous Sine-Den-Ahmed-Moula Chekfa, abandoned by their supporters, presented themselves as prisoners asking for mercy. At El Miliat General La Croix received 112,000*fr.* indemnification, 840 muskets, 146 hostages, and all the mules belonging to the natives of the district. The vast extent of land between Mils and El-Aroussa will be sequestered, as well as the goods and furniture of the revolting chiefs. With the exception of three tribes of the District of Collo, Lower Kabylia was entirely subservient by the end of August, the administrative command was reorganised, and the natives returned to their avocations. Those who were accused of having burnt the forests were actively pursued, and five of them, together with some chiefs implicated in the same offence, have been taken prisoners. By Sept. 5 a despatch from Bona had announced that General La Croix was on the banks of the Oued-Zouhr, whence he was about to pass into the district of Djidjelli, to reduce Babor, which was yet unsettled.

Our Engraving represents the engagement of Tizi-Ouzou, one of the sharpest affairs of the campaign, during which a village was fired and almost entirely destroyed.

**NIEDERBRONN.**

In our last Number we gave some particulars of the places to which the attention of the tourist is likely to be directed in a journey about the neighbourhood of Strasbourg, and thence towards Basle, Brugg, and the district of that Alsace the recovery of which has given such satisfaction to the Germans, who have, of course, re-named it Elsass, and are not yet tired of speaking of the restoration of the territory of the old empire, and of the beauties of a country which derives most of its advantages in this, as in other respects, from the fact of its being German instead of French. We this week publish an Engraving of a town which the shrewd German propensity for business may find means to make more of in the way of attracting visitors than has been done for the last century or so. For what the baths of Niederbronn are really most beneficial we are not quite able to say; but doubtless they have a special virtue, just as each of the old London wells had when there were wells in London, and people went to St. Chad, and St. Agnes-le-Clair, and a dozen other holy springs to drink the waters or lave in them for their bodies' and souls' good. At any rate, Niederbronn may be recommended as a town where there is some fine rugged scenery not far off, and where there is susceptibility of great improvement in the streets, which, unlike those of some other health resorts, are not so constructed as to be unalterable. By-the-by, it may rather be called a first-class village than a town, and, like Ventnor, has about it rather a subdued invalid gaiety; but we shall probably hear more of it ere long, for there will be much



THE BATHS OF NIEDERBRONN, ALSACE.

energetic promotion of Elsass and all its belongings now that the Germans have gained possession of it, for recovered property is always regarded as of greater immediate interest than ordinary possessions, which have never grown unfamiliar by long disuse.

**THE CROPS OF CALIFORNIA.**

PRESIDENT WILDER has delivered an address on California, from which we make the following extract:—Wheat is the great crop of California. Barley and oats are to be found in great abundance there; but Indian corn is rarely seen. The yield of grain is about thirty-two bushels to the acre, the greater portion of it being, as I have already stated, devoted to wheat. As there is no rain in the summer months, the grain crops are left standing in the fields for weeks after they are ripe. Most of the crops are cut by a machine called the "header," which cuts them at a tremendous rate; they are thrashed in the field by a steam-machine, and we were told that this machine thrashed 800 to 1000 bushels of wheat per day, and put it into bags, the latter being allowed to remain in the field. We saw acres of these bags, piled up five high, in the fields, waiting for shipment. Machinery is brought into general use there. The ploughing is done by gang-ploughs, to which are attached feeders, so that large portions of ground can be cut up and sown in a short time. Have you ever thought of these labour-saving machines as applied to the arts of industry? Without these modern inventions the crops could not be harvested, and a partial famine must ensue. Nothing surprises the traveller more than the immense fields of wheat everywhere seen on the sides of the railroad. Think of riding for hours through fields of wheat, whose breadth extends miles beyond your vision, and you will have some idea of the harvest of these ocean-like plateaus of corn that abound in California, and which already equal in value the product of her mines. The supply of vegetables, as seen in the markets of her principal cities, is very abundant and of excellent quality. With irrigation, crop after crop can be obtained in rapid succession, so that you can get anything you desire at almost any season of the year. Asparagus can be obtained

from February to June; the size to which it attains is almost incredible. So also is the size of other vegetables. Pumpkins weigh 250 lb.; squashes, 150 lb.; beets, 50 lb.; carrots, 30 lb. It is easy to understand how these results are attained, when we remember that growth there never ceases. Although our attention was mainly given to the vineyard and the garden, yet we were everywhere impressed with the immense size of the farms. We were told of one in Sacramento that contained 13,000 acres; of another, in another county, that contained 3500 acres and 600 milch cows; and others in proportion. The value of the agricultural products of California in 1869 is stated to be 30,000,000*dols.* This, considering the sparse population (less than 600,000), is very great. The variety of the crops which can be grown there is most wonderful. The foreign grape yields more abundantly there than in any part of Europe; the almond and the olive comes to perfection; the culture of silk, lately introduced there, promises to be successful, as does the culture of the tea-plant and the growing of rice, lately tried in the Sacramento valley. When we consider that California has a territory of 800 miles in length, and is more than ten times as large as our own State, and when we remember that she has such a fertile soil and salubrious climate, we can hardly estimate her future progress, prosperity, and power; and now that the great highway of nations has been opened across our Continent, now that the population from all quarters of the globe is commingling on her shores—a population which is now and for evermore to be strongly influenced by New England blood and New England principles—we begin to realise the great future of the Pacific slope. In view of the addition of this wonderful territory to our union of States, we are tempted to make use of the sentiment of Bishop Berkeley—

Westward the course of Empire takes its way.

**A VERITABLE BLACK TOWN.**

SAD disclosures are made relative to the sanitary condition of Dudley in a report by Dr. Thorne Thorne, one of the inspectors of the medical department of the Privy Council—or, rather, as it

must now be termed, the medical department of the Local Government Board. The immediate cause of the inquiry was the excessive mortality registered from "fevers" during the past two quarters. Dudley is, of course, situated in the Black Country, and has a population engaged mainly in lime, coal, and ironstone mining, various manufactures of iron, particularly chain-making, and also glass blowing and cutting. The importance, therefore, of securing an efficient system of sanitation amongst the crowded parts of the place must be at once apparent where so many workmen are collected. An analysis of statistics shows that more than 11 per cent of the mortality from all causes in the ten years ending 1869 has been caused by the chief infectious diseases against the existence of which sanitary authorities are supposed to wage war. Diarrhoea itself accounts for 6.23*ds* per cent of the deaths. The infantile mortality is excessively high also. The mortality tables for 1870, taken in connection with the population, prove that, with a decreasing population, the general death-rate has risen markedly. It was in 1870 25.7 per 1000, as against 22.6 per 1000, the average of the three preceding years. Of the deaths, too, more than one third were those of children under one year old. But the mortality from fever was enormously high; it was double that for the large towns in England and Wales; it much more than doubles that of London, and actually rivals Liverpool. When we come to read what Dr. Thorne says about the sanitary state of the town, we are surprised that so many nuisances should have been permitted to exist unchecked in the place. Dudley has many natural advantages as regards drainage, but these have not been taken advantage of. Large portions are still unserved slaps, and filth may be seen trickling down the streets; imperfect and choked drains pass immediately under the floors of cottages, emitting most offensive effluvia; sewer ditches run through thickly-inhabited districts, and many of the sewers are improperly constructed and defective. Even in some of the best streets the sewers are so ill-adapted for their purpose that they fail to drain the cellars, from which a foul and offensive fluid has, in some instances, periodically to be removed. There is no plan of sewers (Dr. Thorne adds), and nothing is



BREECH-LOADING ORDNANCE OF THE MIDDLE AGES.—On Tuesday morning a most interesting consignment arrived at the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich. It consisted of three bronze guns, manufactured evidently at an exceedingly early date, although in a most perfect state of preservation as regards the various parts, which were forwarded from Rhodes by Admiral Milne, to whom they had been sent in transit from Rhodes by her Britannic Majesty's Consul. These and some other guns of a like nature were accidentally discovered by a diver at the bottom of the sea near Rhodes, and were being sold for the sake of the metal which was contained in them, with a view of melting them down. Fortunately, however, this was arrested in time. These curious specimens of warlike and destructive art are supposed to belong to a period anterior even to the date of the Battle of Crecy, when guns are said to have been first used. But the great interest which attaches to them is contained in the fact that two of the number are breech-loading pieces of ordnance. These are about 5ft. in length, and would contain a ball from four to five pounds weight. At the breech end is a chamber, sufficiently wide and deep to contain a large vent-piece, which can be lifted in and out by means of a handle. This vent-piece is not solid, as in the Armstrong gun, but has a space hollowed out within it evidently intended to hold the cartridge. Whether the ball formed part of the cartridge with the powder was rammed in afterwards at the muzzle cannot be ascertained; but, as the diameter of the barrel is greater than that of the chamber, it would appear that the latter surmise is correct. A plug passing through the breech of the gun and through the solid end of the vent piece kept the latter in its place when the charge was fired. There is an orifice in the cross-bar of each of the guns, which may have fastened a breech-screw. But the material is so much eaten away that it would not be possible to determine whether there was such a thread in the orifices or not. The vent-piece is at the end of the vent, and is fastened and so contrived as to be exactly upright when the plug is in place. On the transverse piece of one of the guns is the figure of a lion with wings, in a similar position on the other is a human figure, apparently having a book. But the carving is so nearly obliterated that it is difficult to distinguish whether these images are human or otherwise. The third is an ordinary-looking weapon, somewhat similar in shape to those which were used in the last century. It has a bore of 2½ in., measures about 40 in. in length, and is also of bronze, but does not bear the same stamp of antiquity as the rest.



## THE STRIKES.

**NEWCASTLE.**—The engineers' strike on Tyne continues, and there seems no hope as yet of an arrangement being come to. Foreign workmen continue to arrive, but considerable numbers have also left. Thirty-six did so the other day. Several strike hands have been summoned before the magistrates for not finishing their contracts at Messrs. Hawthorn's. There was a difference of opinion among the magistrates as to whether the opinion in the first case came within the terms of the Act, and, as the employers had a remedy in the County Court, the case was dismissed. The other cases were adjourned, it being understood that the opinion of a superior Court would be taken.

**STAFFORDSHIRE.**—A large meeting of delegates from the millmen and forge hands employed in the South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire ironworks was held, on Monday, at Great Bridge. A week ago the men resolved to give notice unless an advance of 5 per cent was made on their wages, and it was stated on Monday that notice to leave in a fortnight had been served at twenty-one in the district. At a large number of the establishments no notice had been given, and there seemed to be a want of unanimity amongst mill and forge hands on the matter. The feeling of discontent is strong against the course adopted by the employers, who have adopted a policy which has for the time separated the interests of the puddlers from those of the foremen. It is possible that, at the preliminary meeting of the trade, to be held on the 28th inst., the prices of iron may be advanced and the demands of the employees granted in full. Until this has been decided it is probable that the agitation of the ironworkers will be held in abeyance. The crate-makers' strike in the Staffordshire Potteries is at an end. The masters insisted on proper notice, and the men, convinced by a deputation that they were wrong, have returned to their work. The rate of pay for the future will, it is thought, be easily settled by each individual master with his own men.

**BIRMINGHAM.**—Last Saturday night a meeting of millmen and shinglers was held at the Horse Shoe Inn, Brierley-hill, Birmingham. There was a large attendance of delegates from most of the works in the district. It was stated that a majority of the men had given notice that day for a rise of 10 per cent, and the remainder would send in their names on Monday.

**LEEDS.**—Works at some of the coal and ironstone pits in the Leeds district have been partially stopped, the men refusing to work at the present prices paid. After several interviews the managers conceded an advance. The Leeds tinplate workers, both society and non-society men, have resolved to agitate for a reduction of the working hours to fifty-six per week, 26s. to be the wages for an average workman. The Leeds clothworkers, at a meeting on Sunday night, resolved to form a general union with a view to obtain shorter hours and higher wages. It was stated that other trades were receiving 30 per cent more than the cloth-dressers. It was resolved to support Mr. Kemp's men, who are on strike. The marble-masons and polishers employed by Messrs. Welch, of Goodhouse-lane, Leeds, having applied for a reduction of the hours of labour from fifty-eight and a half to fifty-six per week, have been met by their masters with a lock-out, their money having been paid with the intimation that their services would no longer be required. Some of the other masters in the town have agreed to the reduction. The men employed at several tanneries in Leeds are on strike for higher wages. The plumbers are about to ask for an increase.

**WALES.**—The colliers employed at the new pit, Troedrhwy, near Merthyr, have determined to demand an advance of 10 per cent on their present rate of wages, and it is believed that this step is the precursor of a general movement for a rise throughout the district. The Amalgamated Association of Miners have just distributed the sum of £673 amongst the colliers who were recently on strike in South Wales. The money is paid to these colliers only who have children, and is at the rate of 1s. 10d. per head for 7210 children. The Union, which found itself unable during the course of the struggle to make the promised payment on behalf of children, are now honourably fulfilling their engagements.

**CARLISLE.**—The boot and shoe makers at Carlisle have struck work for increased wages.

**DEAN FOREST.**—The Bilson and Crump Meadow Colliery Company have voluntarily advanced the wages of their men 5 per cent to avoid an expected strike.

**GLASGOW.**—At a meeting of the Clyde Engineers' Association, held at Glasgow, it was resolved, taking into consideration that the carpenters' strike continued in the Glasgow district, notwithstanding the advance of wages offered at Greenock and other places at which they work, that a lock-out of all the carpenters of the Clyde should take place unless the strike was brought to an end.

**BABY-FARMING.**—A shocking case of baby-farming was investigated by Mr. Hardwicke, at the House of Detention, Clerkenwell, last Saturday. The infant on whose body the inquest was held was the child of Agnes Anderson, aged seventeen, now an inmate of the prison. It was stated that the father of the child never contributed a shilling towards the support of either the mother or the child, which was born in the workhouse. Three weeks after its birth it was placed by the mother with a Mrs. Baker, of 16, Colville-place, to whom 7s. a week was paid for its keep; but it was afterwards taken to Mrs. Smith, who had it for a week, and received 6s. 6d. The poor child was subsequently taken back to Mrs. Baker, and was there (according to the medical evidence) neglected and badly treated that it died in the prison infirmary from starvation. The mother used to take the child out at night and representing that it was dead, and that she wanted money to bury it, and on more than one occasion had said "that she wished the child would die." The officer who had charge of the case having stated that Mrs. Smith did not appear to be a guilty party, and that she would be a useful witness against the other prisoners, the jury returned a verdict of "manslaughter" against Anderson and Baker.

## LONDON POLICE COURTS.

**A MEAN CHEAT.**—George Way, eighteen, a brushmaker, described as having no home, was charged at the Mansion House, on Monday, with obtaining money by fraud, under somewhat singular circumstances. The prisoner had become acquainted with an errand boy named Richard Constantine, and had succeeded in obtaining information from him as to his situation and his wages. He represented that his uncle kept a printing-office in Fleet-street, and that he could get the lad a much better berth there. The boy accompanied him to Cannon-street station on Saturday last, and there handed him over at his request his wages, 6s. in amount, under the pretence that he wished to get some luggage from the booking-office. He promised the boy that if he went afterwards with him to Fleet-street he would return him double the sum, together with a suit of clothes. The prisoner went to the booking-office, but transacted no business there. The lad, being distrustful of him, asked to have the amount returned; and the prisoner, apparently in anger, threw a purse into the middle of the roadway in Cannon-street, saying, "Take your money." The boy picked up the purse, but found that it only contained 6d. in coppers. He pursued the prisoner, who had tried to make his escape, and gave him into custody. The prisoner then admitted the truth of the charge, and returned the money to the boy. The Lord Mayor sentenced the prisoner to two months' hard labour, and advised the lad to be very careful in future as to the character of the acquaintances he might form. The boy, in reply, said he thought the prisoner was honest, he having represented that his father was the proprietor of the *Daily Telegraph*. The Lord Mayor said in that case he would not have been in need of 6s.

**AN OLD IMPOSTOR.**—William Jones, who said he had no home or occupation, was charged, at Clerkenwell, on Monday, with asking alms in Leather-lane, Holborn. The defendant was seen by Welch, an officer, standing in Leather-lane; and, knowing that he had been convicted of mendicancy, he watched, and saw him receive several small sums. Ostensibly he was selling boot-laces, but when he saw the police approaching, although he pretended to be blind, he held out some laces and called out the price. When taken into custody he had written on a board hung round his neck the following verse:—

Men and women, who pass by,  
As you are now so once was I;  
Now I am blind, and cannot see;  
I pray, good Christians, buy of me.

The defendant was well known to Allday, a detective of the C division, who stated that when he was at this court last he was sentenced to three months' hard labour for begging. On that occasion he was dressed in the uniform of the 16th Lancers, and he then had a board round his neck, on which was written, "I am a poor discharged soldier. After serving my Queen and country for nine years, I was discharged on 6d. a day for six months. I am now unable to work." Inquiries were instituted, and it was ascertained that no such person had been discharged from the above regiment, and it further transpired that the defendant had been convicted both at the Thames and the Marlborough-street Police Courts. After the defendant had served his three months, he was seen to leave the prison by Allday, who stated that he could walk as briskly as anyone else, and that there did not appear to be any trace that he was suffering from defective vision or any other ailment of the eyes. The defendant said he hoped the magistrate would give him one more chance, and he would promise him in the most sincere manner that he would never be found begging again. Mr. Cooke remanded the defendant, and stated that, when the previous convictions were proved, he should commit him for trial as an incorrigible rogue and vagabond.

**A BATCH OF STOLEN PROPERTY.**—At Lambeth, on Monday, a young man named Clements was charged with having in his possession thirty-two keys, a knife, and a file, supposed to be for the purpose of committing a felony; also with having a paper-knife, one clock, three scarf-pins, and other property, and sixty-two duplicates relating to watches, rings, and a large amount of property, supposed to have been stolen. A description of some of the articles, it is thought, may lead to the discovery of the owners. The following are some of the articles:—A large gold watch, maker, "Yates, Coventry," No. 1655; timepiece, with rosewood stand, opens at back, maker, "Charles Frodsham;" a gold twisted pin, shape of lover's knot; a spade guinea, 1787, George III.; a lady's fine turquoise ring; a gold brooch, turquoise and pearls, and hair in centre; a brown leather portmanteau, addressed "Mr. Hadley, Spread Eagle Hotel, Northgate-street, Gloucester," containing a pair of light trousers and dark blue frock coat; a gold Geneva watch, sunk seconds, engraved cases, marked inside "L. L. C. No. 795;" a gold twisted pin (rope pattern); a silver lever watch, sunk seconds, capped and jewelled, maker "James C. Midre, No. 155;" a race-glass, black case, lined with red velvet, maker, "Jumelle, Marine;" black opera-glass, black leather case, lined with green silk, and twisted strap; an opera-glass, marked "Trade-Salmon and Co., London and Edinburgh;" opera-glass, in patent-leather case; gold coral pin, figure of a lady's head; two chased studs; two gold studs, twisted ribbon pattern; a gold seal (adieu of a butterfly leaving the husk); a large gold locket (horseshoe on back of case); lady's gold ring (two opals, oval shape, diamond on each side); a pair of coloured earrings, French books, a turquoise pin, two stones oval, pearl in centre; a massive gold Albert, very large link pattern, each link marked 18-carat; gold coral pin; square-headed gold pin (two arrows crossed); scarf ring, stone oval of centre; brass eight-day timepiece, key attached, with bone-label appended, engraved, "To be wound up every Monday morning;" timepiece, mahogany case, makers, "D. ing, and N. Morrice, Royal Exchange;" a guitar, much scratched on back; a velvet sunshade, shot with black and white spots, ivory cross handle; cardcase inlaid with silver, pair of plain gold earrings, plain gold onyx pin. These and a large number of other articles, comprising clothing, &c., were pledged all within this year. Every information can be obtained at the police-station, Carter-street, Walworth.

**ROBBERIES WITH VIOLENCE.**—Street robberies with violence are again becoming frequent in London. Almost every day cases come before the

police courts, of which the two following, tried on Wednesday, are specimens:—At Worship-street, James Murray, about twenty-one years of age—one of the "no-work-to-do" class—was charged before Mr. Hannay with having been concerned, with several others not in custody, in violently assaulting Robert Hales, and robbing him of a watch and gold chain, value £5 10s. The prosecutor, who appeared in considerable pain, deposed that about a quarter past twelve o'clock at night he was returning home through Osborne-street, Whitechapel, when he heard a noise behind him and the next second was hurled violently to the ground by a "trip" from behind. Almost stunned though he was, he felt a tug made at his watch-chain, and his watch going. It was impossible for him to save it, as he then became insensible. He knew, however, that a number of men and lads were about him, and some kneeling upon him, but he could not identify any of them. A witness named Matthews and another named Budd deposed to witnessing the assault. There were some six or seven, among them the prisoner, and they closed round the prosecutor, who was thrown to the ground. The prisoner they were positive was one of the men who knelt upon him, and was the last to leave him, as he lay on the ground unable to rise. Police-constable 28 IIIK stated that he saw the prisoner leave the prosecutor, who was insensible, and immediately he took the former into custody. He denied the charge. His companions escaped, and the watch and chain were not found. A portion of the chain was, however, picked up on the spot where the robbery was committed, and this the prosecutor identified. The prisoner, who was said to be well known, was fully committed to Newgate for trial at the Central Criminal Court. At the Thames Police Court Jane Mathias, aged 31 years, Agnes Kidd, 22, and Elizabeth Cox, 36, were brought before Mr. Lushington, on remand, charged with stealing £3 in gold and other moneys from the person of Wm. Coates, a seaman. The prisoners, who were most impudent thieves, pounced upon the prosecutor in Wellesloe-square, near the Sailors' Home, on Saturday night last, and robbed him of his money, and beat him and kicked him in a brutal manner. They passed the money from one to the other, and when the sailor complained that he had been robbed, Mathias placed a sovereign among some silver, thrust it into his pocket, and said "There's your money." Two Jew shopkeepers, named Harris and Meyers, who saw the whole affair, interposed, and gave the prisoners into custody. A sovereign was found on Mathias, and another sovereign on Kidd. Mr. Lushington committed the prisoners for trial.

**STEALING BEER.**—At Clerkenwell, on Tuesday, William Sellwood, aged twenty-six, a pointsman in the employ of the Midland Railway, was charged before Mr. Cooke with stealing fifteen pints of ale from a cask in the goods-yard of the Midland Railway, St. Pancras. For some time past great complaints have been made to the Midland Company by the British brewers that have stores in London, that in transition the casks have been tampered with, and some of the contents removed. The matter was placed in the hands of Detective-Sergeant Woodrow, of the company's police, and he had stationed a porter at the St. Paul's-road Junction, to watch the trucks laden with beer and ale that were standing on the sideway. At an early hour in the morning a train laden with beer arrived from Burton, and was shunted on to the sideway, and thus left. Previous to leaving, the watchman went over the trucks to see if all was right, and on coming to the last one he saw what he said he thought was a shunter's watch. He stooped to pick it up, and on touching it was surprised to find the prisoner rise up, having a gimlet in his hand. He asked the prisoner what he was doing there, and why he was not on his duty in the pointsman's box, which was about 200 yards off, and he said he had come after a little beer, but he hoped no notice would be taken of the matter, and he would give his week's wages if secrecy was kept. The prisoner was, however, given into custody; and on the truck being examined it was found that two spikes had been driven into one of the casks—one for the purpose of giving vent, and the other for allowing the ale to run—and a pint of beer had been drawn off and was standing on the truck ready for removal. On the way to the police-station the prisoner said he had been led into the commission of the robbery by others; but as he was the first that had been caught, he supposed he must stand the brunt of it. Detective-Sergeant Woodrow asked for a remand, so that further inquiries might be made into the case. Mr. Cooke remanded the prisoner, and refused to accept bail for his appearance.

**POLICE PROSECUTIONS.**—In the case of a prisoner named John Cole, who was tried before Mr. Commissioner Kerr, on Tuesday, and acquitted, on three indictments charging him with burglary, and with feloniously receiving stolen goods, knowing them to have been stolen, the Commissioner made some severe comments with reference to the loose way in which the evidence had been got up. At the close of the last case against the prisoner the detective officer who had arrested the prisoner mentioned that a large quantity of property, which had evidently been stolen, had been found at his lodgings, and the Commissioner expressed his surprise that evidence had not been given with reference to these articles, observing that if that had been done the prisoner would have been, beyond all doubt, convicted, an expression of opinion in which the jury concurred. The Commissioner went on to say that this was a case which had been prosecuted by an attorney who had not taken the trouble to procure proper evidence, and who did not know his business, and called attention to a clause of an Act of Parliament passed in 1869, to the effect that where proceedings were taken against any person who was in the possession of stolen property evidence might be given that there were found in his possession other goods stolen within the preceding period of twelve months, and such evidence might be taken into consideration to show that the person knew the goods which formed the subject of the proceedings against him were stolen. Now the officer in this case told him there was a lot of plated and other goods found in the prisoner's possession, which there could not be any doubt was stolen property, and also twenty-eight duplicates; and he repeated

that if evidence had been given with reference to these articles, the man would have been found guilty. Mr. F. H. Lewis, one of the barristers in the court, said that the police put cases in the hands of a certain class of attorneys, and this was the result of that combination. Mr. Horace Browne, another barrister, said the name of the attorney for the prosecution did not appear in the *Law List*. The Commissioner said he should not allow the costs of the prosecution, and remarked that this was just another instance of the necessity of appointing a public prosecutor.

**SWINDLING AT CHELTENHAM.**—Two men have been apprehended in Manchester on suspicion of being concerned in frauds at Cheltenham to the amount of at least £700. Two or three months ago a firm of house and estate agents in that town received some letters from a person taking the name of Betts, with reference to renting a fashionable house at Charlton Kings. Upon reference being made to an address at Egham, the firm received a reply in highly satisfactory terms, and written on note-paper richly emblazoned with arms and motto in gold relief. The house was then let to the applicant on a lease of fifteen years, Betts paying a quarter's rent in advance. Having thus secured a respectable residence, the new tenant gave a furnishing firm an order for goods to the value of £300. Books, stationery, ironmongery, &c., were obtained from various tradesmen; and wine merchants were also patronised, one with an order to the extent of £80, and another for half that sum. Suddenly the numerous creditors were alarmed to hear of the arrival from London of an optician whose firm had supplied to the same gentleman a number of opera-glasses, without being able to get payment or the return of the goods. Upon this transpiring, one of the local tradesmen, accompanied by a legal adviser, visited Mr. Betts, whom they found in an elegantly-furnished drawing-room. A brief but stormy interview disclosed the position of the parties sufficiently to make the creditors chiefly anxious for the safe return of their goods. Two men on their behalf were put in possession, and were soon left alone in the house, the "gentleman" suddenly departing in a cab. Before going he said his wife had urgent reasons for leaving Cheltenham, and that he would come back to the house on seeing her off; but, of course, he failed to return, and the references to the house-agent have since been ascertained to be spurious. The prisoners, with several cartloads of goods which have been recovered, were removed from Manchester to Cheltenham.

**INSUBORDINATE JURYMEN.**—On Monday afternoon Dr. Lankester held an inquiry at the Wellington Music Hall, Brooke-street, Holborn, into the death of Mary Farrell, the wife of a pewterer, living in Leather-lane. The inquest had been fixed for 2.30, at which hour a jury of fifteen tradesmen of the neighbourhood were in attendance; but it was 3.15 before the Coroner arrived. On the Coroner taking his seat, Mr. Barnes and Mr. Warner, two jurymen, complained that they had served upon three juries lately, while some of their fellow-tradesmen in the neighbourhood who were duly summoned had never attended at all. The Coroner regretted that such should have been the case. He had the power to fine duly-summoned jurymen for non-attendance, but did not like to use that power if he could avoid it. He would take care that the absentees referred to should serve upon the next occasion. A jurymen next complained that the Coroner had kept the jury waiting nearly an hour, and said he thought the Coroner should be fined ("Hear, hear!" from several of the jury). The Coroner explained that his absence had been caused by his being delayed at another inquest. He did not complain so much of the remarks of the jurymen who had spoken as of the disrespectful tone in which they were made. That was not the first time he had been annoyed and insulted by jurymen in that locality. He thought some of them must be under the influence of liquor, or they would not act so disgracefully. This remark brought about half the jury on their feet, who, all speaking at once, declared they would not be insulted or dictated to by the Coroner. The Coroner's officer having in vain attempted to enforce silence, Dr. Lankester requested the sergeant of police in the room to stand up, which he did. The Coroner, addressing the noisy jurymen, then told them that they had committed gross contempt of court, for which he could order them into custody; and any jurymen who further interrupted the proceedings he should give into the custody of the police, with orders to take him before a magistrate. This intimation, coupled with the fact of the police-sergeant sending out for assistance, had the effect of restoring something like order, and the inquest was proceeded with. It is but justice to state that the foreman of the jury and several of his colleagues seemed thoroughly ashamed of the behaviour of their brother jurymen who took part in the disorderly proceedings.

## THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 15.  
BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—W. H. STEVENSON, Pen wortham, Lancashire, mechanic.  
BANKRUPT.—D. A. LORIE, Newgate-street, manufacturer.—T. F. RICHARDS, Falcon-court, Fleet-street, solicitor.—M. SAVILL, Adam's-court, Old Broad-street, stockbroker.—T. C. BELL, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, wine merchant.—E. BROOKE, Bradford, woollapler.—J. J. COE, Great Yarmouth, soda-water manufacturer.—F. M. COOPER, Plymouth, accountant.—W. B. GEDDES, Warrington, miller.  
SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—G. WILLIAMSON, Glasgow, contractor.—T. GAFF, Strirling, chemical manufacturer.—W. M. KENZIE, Stark, and J. H. DUNCAN, Leith, merchants.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 16.  
BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—A. J. J. MACDONALD, New Road-street.  
BANKRUPTS.—H. KEELY, Becclesfield, F. C. MUD, Uckfield, surgeon.—W. ROEBUCK, Huddersfield, yarnspinner.  
SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—E. F. DUNNISON, Ashton, Gourock, grocer.—J. SUTHERLAND, Hillhead of Lyster, merchant.

## SAUCE.

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known concerning them. The sewage is received, after leaving Dudley, into huge holes dug in the ground, and situated, at least in one case, within forty yards of a group of houses, to the inhabitants of which the stench must be intolerable. The sewage ultimately finds its way to canals and water-courses. There are about half a hundred closets in the place, otherwise the town is dependent on the midden system, and the removal of refuse is wholly insufficient. Soakage from the huge middens takes place into the surrounding soil. The water supply is condemned as bad in quantity and quality. A place called the Mousesweet Brook, a name which is a perversion of "mouth sweet," so proverbially sweet was its water, is now nothing but an open sewer, the contents of which are far too foul to the sense of smell ever to be tested by that of taste. And so we might go on at length to catalogue the evils that abound in this truly black town. The condition of the dwelling-houses, and especially in so far as this gives rise to overcrowding amongst the poor, is especially condemned. No wonder that preventable diseases have been so prevalent. Typhus has been recently epidemic to a large extent, and this is explained by the action of overcrowding and destitution amongst the poor.

It is supremely foolish of the local authorities to permit the continuance of this state of things. It is costly neglect, because the large amount of preventable disease and death raises the rates and other local burdens in a very decided manner. The reforms that are urgently required in Dudley must be apparent to everyone. Briefly, they are the adoption of a thorough system of sewerage and drainage, the provision of an ample and pure water supply, the systematic removal of all excremental matter and refuse, the removal of fouling influences that at present exist in the place, the better construction of houses in accordance with the principles of the Act to "provide better dwellings for artisans and labourers," the prevention of overcrowding, the introduction of a proper system of disinfection for polluted localities, the erection of hospitals for the isolation of infectious diseases, and of a proper mortuary; and, lastly, the appointment of a well-qualified and energetic medical officer of health. These things are what Dr. Thorne Thorne recommends.

#### MUSIC.

ANOTHER attempt is to be made at establishing a national opera in the metropolis; and few will withhold their best wishes from the enterprise, whatever doubts they may entertain as to its success. English opera, of late years, has been only another name for failure. Again and again, sometimes with and sometimes without adequate means, sanguine speculators have tried to make the thing acceptable. The result, in every case, has falsified their hopes. Charmed they never so wisely, the British public would not listen and pay. A fall and dispassionate inquiry into the causes of this persistent rejection of a national entertainment would prove valuable, but we cannot attempt it here. Enough if, in view of another effort at popularising English opera, we indicate certain signs tending to make success more justifiably a matter of hope than it has been on former occasions. In the first place, occasional performances like those in which Mr. Santley took part at the Gaiety, and the regular opera season at the Crystal Palace, have accustomed the public to look upon opera in English as a recognised form of entertainment. Next, they have done something, be it ever so little, towards developing talent for the lyric stage among English artists, leading them, in yet greater degree, to entertain the idea of operatic work. These are advantages scarcely to be overrated; and the first season at St. James's Theatre may show that they exert an influence much greater than now appears. The new enterprise, which starts under the imposing designation, "Royal National Opera," commences on Saturday next, and is managed by "directors," who are not named, but who, we hope, will contrive to agree among themselves. The season will extend to forty nights; and the works to be performed are authoritatively indicated, as follows:—"As regards nationality in composition, the directors will imitate the wise example of the Italian Opera companies, who seek excellence wherever it may be found, and present Italian versions of works by French, German, and even English composers. While operas by native composers will naturally occupy a prominent place, the masterpieces of foreign composers will occasionally be presented in an English dress." As far as it goes this is satisfactory; but we should have liked some definite assurance that English talent will be encouraged in the most practical way by the production of new works. We have some able young men among us who only need the opening of "a door of utterance" to say that which should be worth hearing. The directors further announce that they have secured the co-operation of Sir Julius Benedict, who will conduct performances of his own works; and of Sir W. Sterndale Bennett, whose consent is given to the stage production of his cantata, "The May Queen." We may add here that the published repertoire contains the following works among others:—"The Rose of Castile," "Lurline," "Guy Mannering," "Lily of Killarney," "Figaro," "Barber of Seville," "Dinorah," "Son and Stranger," and "Der Freischütz." From this it may be inferred that the work of the season will not lack variety, nor suffer for want of an appeal to all tastes.

Turning to the executive branch of the enterprise, we find as conductor Mr. Sidney Naylor, who, if he can conduct as well as he can accompany, will be the right man in the right place. The artists announced comprise some who are well known; as, for example, Miss Rose Hersee, fresh from her successes in America; Miss Blanche Cole, Madame Lancia, Miss Palmer; Mr. Perren, Mr. Nordblom, Mr. Maybrick, Mr. Theodore Distin, and Mr. Sims Reeves. Some of these, it will be noted, are new to the operatic stage, though familiar to the concert platform, and, consequently, their value is undecided. Of the company as a whole, it is hard to say what might be expected. But, however deficient the first efforts put forth, the new venture will start with abundant good wishes.

The Promenade Concerts at Covent Garden are maintained with as much spirit as ever. On Tuesday a march by Sir Jules Benedict, entitled "William and Olga," was produced, under the composer's personal direction, and met with a reception deserved alike by its spirited themes and ingenious orchestration. The composition, written in honour of the King and Queen of Wurtemberg's "silver wedding," has since been repeated with unquestionable success. Rossini's "Stabat Mater" was to be produced last night, and the more "popular" programmes have presented the usual attractions.

Mr. Henry Leslie has in preparation a new musical annual for 1872, which will be published by Messrs. Cassell, Petter, and Galpin, and will contain contributions by Blumenthal, Virginia Gabriel, Henry Smart, C. Godfrey, and Henry Leslie.

A PARK, which has been provided at a cost of about £16,000, was thrown open to the public at Dundee, on Wednesday. The Earl of Dalhousie took part in the proceedings, and planted a tree commemorative of the event, as did also the Provost. Rain fell during the whole of the ceremony.

BIRKBECK LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION, Southampton-buildings, Chancery-lane.—This institution has just issued its prospectus for the winter season. The alterations in the class-rooms, which were rendered necessary by the large increase in the number of members, have been completed. The list of classes has been much extended, and both ladies and gentlemen will now be able to receive instruction in all branches of education. Arrangements have also been made by which a complete course of technical instruction can be obtained. This will be most valuable for students preparing for the examinations for the Whitworth Scholarships. The hours at which the classes meet will be found to be very convenient to those engaged in business during the day, while the fees are so moderate as to be within the reach of all. The list of lecturers contains the names of several of the most eminent occupants of the platform; and Professor Sheldon Amos has consented to deliver a special course of lectures on the General Principles and History of English Law. The library has been greatly improved, and the reading-room is well supplied with current literature.

#### COLLIERY EXPLOSIONS IN SOUTH LANCASHIRE.

THE first report, just issued, of a committee formed about three years ago in South-West Lancashire for the purpose of administering relief to sufferers by colliery accidents gives some details as to the aggregate loss of life by reason of the nine great explosions which have occurred since November, 1868, and as to the number of orphans and widows who are or have been dependent on the fund for support. The committee was originally formed to meet the immediate necessities of the sufferers by the Hindley-green explosion in 1868, by which sixty-two lives were lost, and it was at first intended only to apply to that disaster. Other explosions, however, followed in rapid succession, and each was included in the operation of the fund, until at length the names of 148 widows and 349 fatherless children have been placed upon the books of the committee. The following table, published in the report, gives the names of the collieries where the accidents happened, the date of each disaster, and the number of widows and children whose husbands and fathers lost their lives:—

Place.	Date.	Deaths.	Surviving Sufferers.
Hindley-green ..	Nov. 26, 1868 ..	62 ..	22 .. 55
Norley ..	Dec. 21, 1868 ..	7 ..	7 .. 26
Haydock ..	Dec. 30, 1868 ..	26 ..	41 .. 97
Second explosion ..	July 21, 1869 ..	59 ..	9 .. 15
Ramford ..	Jan. 8 and 10, 1869 ..	9 ..	13 .. 27
Park-lane ..	April 1, 1869 ..	28 ..	13 .. 27
Low Hall ..	Nov. 15, 1869 ..	29 ..	9 .. 18
Brynn Hall ..	Aug. 19, 1870 ..	70 ..	37 .. 84
Moss Pits ..	Sept. 6, 1870 ..	70 ..	37 .. 84
Totals ..		312	148 349

Eight of the above were firedamp explosions, and one was caused by an outburst from a ventilation furnace, and falls down a pit-shaft. Five of the explosions took place in what is known as the Wigan nine-feet mine. The report also gives a table showing how the number of cases for relief from each accident has been gradually reduced in proportion to the number of sufferers and the length of time since the accident. At the close of last month the recipients of relief numbered—widows, 89; children, 179; but the explosion on the 6th inst. has brought up the number of widows to 117, and of children to 263. The total amount of subscriptions received and promised is £8500, of which £5800 has been spent, leaving a balance of £2700. Funds in Bolton and Liverpool, amounting to upwards of £2000, make a total of nearly £5000 believed to be available. It is estimated, however, that £16,000 will be required to meet the claims upon the committee by the persons already on the books, and £11,000 therefore remain to be raised. The report thus concludes:—"Your committee beg to thank the public of North Lancashire, to whom they are principally indebted for the funds at their disposal, and all other persons who have subscribed, for the money which has been raised. The late distressing accident at the Moss Pits will, it is believed, again awaken kindly sympathy. The men were cut off whilst at work in the very prime of life, and they have left thirty-seven widows and eighty-four children, who, suddenly bereft of support, require speedy and generous aid. The committee appeal for subscriptions to meet the new emergency, and to continue the necessary relief to the widows and children of those who perished at the previous accidents."

#### OBITUARY.

THE RIGHT HON. G. A. HAMILTON.—The death is announced of the Right Hon. George Alexander Hamilton, one of the Commissioners of the Irish Church Temporalities, which took place at the residence of his brother-in-law, Dr. Swan, in Merville-place, Kingstown. He was in his seventieth year, having been born in 1802, at Tyrella House, in the county of Down. Mr. Hamilton was the son of the Rev. George Hamilton, of Hampton Hall, Balbriggan, in the county of Dublin, and Anna, daughter of Mr. Thomas Pepper, of Ballygarth Castle, Meath. His grandfather was the Hon. George Hamilton, one of the Barons of the Irish Court of Exchequer. He was educated at Rugby, and afterwards entered Trinity College, Oxford, where he graduated in 1822. In 1825 he married Amelia Fancourt, daughter of Mr. Joshua Uthoff, of Bath. In 1826 he stood in the Conservative interest for the county of Dublin, and, after a contest of fourteen days, was defeated by a small majority. In 1830 and 1832 he again contested the county, and in 1835 was invited to stand for the city of Dublin against O'Connell, who was then in the height of his power. O'Connell and Hutton were returned at the close of the poll. Mr. Hamilton petitioned, and, after proceedings which occupied the unexampled period of a twelvemonth, O'Connell was unseated. In 1837 Mr. Hamilton again contested the seat, but was beaten. In 1842 he was returned for the University of Dublin, and held the representation of that learned body until his appointment as Permanent Secretary of the Treasury, in 1850. In March, 1852, on the accession of Lord Derby to office, he was appointed Financial Secretary to the Treasury, a post which he held during the noble Lord's short-lived Administration, which terminated in December of the same year. In 1853-9 he was again appointed to the same post, holding at the same time one of the three Irish commissionerships, and in 1859 retired from Parliament as above mentioned. He retired from the post of Secretary to the Treasury on being appointed by Mr. Gladstone one of the Commissioners of the Irish Church Temporalities under the Irish Church Act of 1870. He was for the whole of his career a consistent supporter of the Conservative party. In 1832 he proposed the formation of the Conservative Society for Ireland, which was seconded by Dr. Blythe; and afterwards this society became a rallying point for the Conservative party in Ireland on the passing of the Reform Bill. Mr. Hamilton was a Deputy Lieutenant for the county of Dublin, a D.C.L. of Oxford, and LL.D. of Dublin.

THE MASTER OF EMMANUEL COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.—The late Master expired at the lodge of the college last Saturday. The venerable deceased, who has thus passed away full of years and honours, will live in the memory of several generations of Cambridge men, though he made no special mark in general politics or polemics. A native of the county of Derby, he entered at Emmanuel, and graduated there B.A. in the year 1815, being ranked about the centre of the Senior Optimes. Soon afterwards he was elected Fellow, and held in turns the offices of Dean, Bursar, Praelector, and Steward of the College, until, being Senior Fellow at the time, he was elected to the mastership of his college in 1835, succeeding Dr. Cory on the demise of the latter, who had held the mastership since 1797—about thirty-eight years! The late Master took his degree as George Archdall, but assumed the compound of Archdall-Gratwicke in right of his wife, who was heiress to one of the chief members of the G. atwickes of Augmering, in Sussex, in the year 1862. His wife pre-deceased him. The late Master was elected a Canon of Norwich in 1842. By the statutes the election is in the hands of the Fellows of the college—an election that must take place within fifteen days of the declaration of the vacancy. The electors (the Fellows of the college) have to meet in the chapel, and, after morning prayers, proceed to the election. Any candidate for the mastership must be in holy orders, and at least thirty years of age. It is understood that the choice of the electors will be between Mr. Phear, the present, and Mr. Fuller, the late, tutor. The late Master had reached the age of eighty-one, and it is understood that he has left a large benefaction to the college.

REV. DR. JELF.—The Rev. Richard William Jelf, D.D., formerly Principal of King's College, London, died on Tuesday morning at Christ Church, Oxford, where he was the Canon in residence. The deceased, who was the son of Sir John Jelf, was born in 1799, and was educated at Christ Church, Oxford, where he took his B.A. degree in 1820, being second class in classics. Shortly after taking his degree he was elected a Fellow of Oriel, of which college he became tutor; and in 1826 was appointed Preceptor to his Royal Highness Prince George of Cumberland, afterwards King of Hanover. In 1826 he was Public Examiner at Oxford. In 1839 he was nominated by Viscount Melbourne,

who was then Prime Minister, to a Canonry in Christ Church; and in 1844, on the elevation of Archdeacon Lonsdale to the Bishopric of Lichfield, was elected Principal of King's College, London, which he resigned two or three years since. In this post he was particularly attached to his theological class. In 1844 Dr. Jelf was Bampton Lecturer, the subject of his sermons being "The Means of Grace." He was also the author of several theological and classical works. A moderately High Churchman, Dr. Jelf was proverbially tolerant, and there was no sign of favouritism towards any particular class of students during his administration in the college, a remark which equally applies to his predecessor in office, Dr. Lonsdale, and his successor, Dr. Barry. In private life the deceased gentleman was of a most kind and endearing disposition, and will long be remembered by those who were the recipients of his bounty, which he dispensed in the most unostentatious manner. By his death the Canonry which he held will not be filled up, in accordance with the Act which limits the number of Canons of Christ Church to six. Dr. Jelf was Sub-Almoner to the Queen until his decease.

MAJOR WEMYSS, OF WEMYSS HALL.—This gentleman died very suddenly at his residence, Wemyss Hall, Cupar-Fife, on Monday afternoon. Apoplexy was the cause of death. Up to his being seized with the fatal illness Major Wemyss had been in his usual state of health. In his youth the deceased joined the Scotch Fusilier Guards, and served with them some time in the West Indies. He afterwards joined the Royal Irish Dragoons, from which he sold out, previous to succeeding to the estates at his father's death. In 1827 he married Miss Gillespie, only daughter of the late Mr. David Gillespie, of Montquhanie. She died some years ago. They had three sons and two daughters, all of whom are alive. The deceased gentleman was held in the highest estimation by his tenantry and fellow-proprietors, and was a useful member of various county boards.

#### DEATH OF QUEEN ELIZABETH.

QUEEN ELIZABETH is dead! It doesn't make any matter how we get the information. This is none of our fight, this quarrel between the Associated Press and its rival. We've received the news, and that's enough. She died 268 years ago, the 24th of last month. She survived until the vital spark had fled, and then she saw it was of no use resisting the inscrutable decree of fate, and so her unfettered soul took its flight into the mysterious void, and settled down to that bourne from which no traveller returns unless he has a mission to jerk chains around and rap on tables for the benefit of mediums and other long-haired, wild-eyed inmates.

Queen Elizabeth was a virgin—a vergin' on seventy; and yet the fire gleamed as brightly as ever in her cream-coloured eyes, and the delicate sheen of her finely-tinted maroon nose contrasted as forcibly as in her youth with the alabaster of her brow; and the plugs in her teeth were just as valuable as when gold was at 156.

She had no small vices. She did not smoke or chew, or belong to the society for the promotion of cruelty to animals; and when she swore she never descended to the vulgarity of Horace Greeley—Queen Elizabeth didn't. When she used profanity she gave it as a finish, an elegance, a delicate, airy grace, and infused into it a luxurious abandon, and rounded it off carelessly at the corner, and dressed it up with well-selected poetical adjectives, so that it sounded like a strain from some sweet singer—like some sweet singer straining himself, in fact. And she had red hair. Her chignon was burglar-proof. And often in the dim twilight of evening, when the sun had sunk to rest, when the western sky was filled with tender radiance and laubent light, and the bulbous wood the rose in the back yard, she would play a few notes upon her harpsichord, or write a Latin hymn or an essay upon the Harrison boiler. She was supposed to be the author of "Rock Me to Sleep, Mother," and "Beautiful Snow," and "Five o'Clock in the Morning." But, nevertheless, she was a very estimable woman, and with all her faults we love her still—better, indeed, than if she was still fooling around. Queen Elizabeth was not proud. She always insisted upon cleaning her teeth, even if she was a Queen; and she always did it once a week, every Sunday morning, with her own toothbrush. What lesson does it teach! Those who are haughty and vain and belong to the bon ton! She never forgot that she was mere perishable dust, and the sheep and the silkworm were her fine clothes long before she got them. She read every Sunday-school book that taught these facts; and she once trod on Sir Walter Raleigh's cloak to remind him of them, because he was so set up with his new fancy cassimeres.

Queen Elizabeth was not sorry to die. She foresaw that George F. Train was coming to England, and she said to her physicians that she would prefer the enduring peace of the cold and silent grave to three weeks of George, and the Alabama claims controversy, and the Schleswig-Holstein question all at the same time. Her last words were, "Kill Horace Greeley before he has a chance to write 'What I Know About Farming.'" There was not a dry eye in that second-story front room. Everybody was thinking how impossible it was to fulfil her dying request and to escape so much misery.

But she has now gone; she has left us; we shall see her no more. Perhaps it is for the best. She was a vigorous woman, and if she had lived she might have come to America, and we might have given her offence, and she might have pranced around here and flogged us like the very nation. For she was a woman who followed closely in all the prevailing fashions. And so we are glad she is dead and has four tons of marble planted on her to hold her down. Rest in peace, old girl! Rest in pieces!—New York Leader.

A FEARFUL ACCIDENT occurred on the Lyons Railway, last Saturday morning, between the Pont-sur-Yonne and Champigny stations, caused by the breaking of an axle-tree and the running of the train off the line. Eleven persons were killed on the spot, and about twenty injured, some seriously. Fourteen of the latter have been taken to Paris, while the others are lying at Sens and Champigny. The names of the victims and sufferers are not known.

BREACH-LOADING ORDNANCE OF THE MIDDLE AGES.—On Tuesday morning a most interesting consignment arrived at the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich. It consisted of three bronze guns, manufactured evidently at an exceedingly early date, although in a most perfect state of preservation as regarded the various parts, which were forwarded from Portsmouth by Admiral Milne, to whom they had been sent in transit from Rhodes by her Britannic Majesty's Consul. These and some other guns of a like nature were accidentally discovered by a diver at the bottom of the sea near Rhodes, and were being sold for the sake of the metal which was contained in them, with a view of melting them down. Fortunately, however, this was arrested in time. These curious specimens of warlike constructive art are supposed to belong to a period anterior even to the date of the Battle of Ocrey, when guns are said to have been first used. But the great interest which attaches to them is contained in the fact that about 5 ft. in length, and would contain a ball from four to five pounds weight. At the breech end is a chamber, sufficiently wide and deep to contain a large vent-piece, which can be lifted in and out by means of a handle. This vent-piece is not solid, as in the Armstrong gun, but has a space hollowed out within it evidently intended to hold the cartridge. Whether the ball formed part of the cartridge with the powder or was rammed in afterwards at the muzzle cannot be ascertained; but, as the calibre of the barrel is greater than that of the chamber, it would appear that the latter surmise is correct. A plug passing through the breech of the gun and through the solid end of the vent-piece kept the latter in its place when the charge was fired, but there is an orifice in the casemate of each of the guns, which may have contained a breach-screw. But the material is so much eaten a thread upon the orifices or not. The vent-hole is at the side of the vent-piece handle, and so contrived as to be exactly upright when the plug is in its place. In a similar position on one of the guns is the figure of a lion with wings. In a book. But the carving is so nearly obliterated that it is difficult to distinguish whether these images are human or otherwise. The third is an ordinary-looking weapon, somewhat similar in shape to those which were used in the last century. It has a bore of 2½ in., measures about 9 ft. in length, and is also of bronze, but does not bear the same stamp of antiquity as the rest.



## THE STRIKES.

**NEWCASTLE.**—The engineers' strike on Tyne-side continues, and there seems no hope as yet of an arrangement being come to. Foreign workmen continue to arrive, but considerable numbers have also left. Thirty-six did so the other day. Several strike hands have been summoned before the magistrates for not finishing their contracts at Messrs. Hawthorn's. There was a difference of opinion among the magistrates as to whether the contract in the first case came within the terms of the Act, and, as the employers had a remedy in the County Court, the case was dismissed. The other cases were adjourned, it being understood that the opinion of a superior Court would be taken.

**STAFFORDSHIRE.**—A large meeting of delegates from the millmen and forge hands employed in the South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire ironworks was held, on Monday, at Great Bridge. A week ago the men resolved to give notice unless an advance of 5 per cent was made on their wages, and it was stated on Monday that notice to leave in a fortnight had been served at twenty-one works in the district. At a large number of the establishments no notice had been given, and there seemed to be a want of unanimity amongst millmen and forge hands on the matter. The feeling of discontent is strong against the course adopted by the employers, who have adopted a policy which has for the time separated the interests of the puddlers from those of the forgers. It is possible that, at the preliminary meeting of the trade, to be held on the 28th inst., the prices of iron may be advanced and the demands of the employees granted in full. Until this has been decided it is probable that the agitation of the ironworkers will be held in abeyance. The crate-makers' strike in the Staffordshire Potteries is at an end. The masters insisted on proper notice, and the men, convinced by a deputation that they were wrong, have returned to their work. The rate of pay for the future will, it is thought, be easily settled by each individual master with his own men.

**BIRMINGHAM.**—Last Saturday night a meeting of millmen and shinglers was held at the Horse Shoe Inn, Brierley-hill, Birmingham. There was a large attendance of delegates from most of the works in the district. It was stated that a majority of the men had given notice that day for a rise of 10 per cent, and the remainder would send in their names on Monday.

**LEEDS.**—Works at some of the coal and ironstone pits in the Leeds district have been partially stopped, the men refusing to work at the present prices paid. After several interviews the managers conceded an advance. The Leeds tinsmiths, both society and non-society men, have resolved to agitate for a reduction of the working hours to fifty-six per week, 26s. to be the wages for an average workman. The Leeds cloth-workers, at a meeting on Sunday night, resolved to form a general union with a view to obtain shorter hours and higher wages. It was stated that other trades were receiving 30 per cent more than the cloth-dressers. It was resolved to support Mr. Kemp's men, who are on strike. The marble-masons and polishers employed by Messrs. Welch, of Goodhouse-lane, Leeds, having applied for a reduction of the hours of labour from fifty-eight and a half to fifty-six per week, have been met by their masters with a lock-out, their money having been paid with the intimation that their services would no longer be required. Some of the other masters in the town have agreed to the reduction. The men employed at several tanneries in Leeds are on strike for higher wages. The plumbers are about to ask for an increase.

**WALES.**—The colliers employed at the new pit, Treodriw, near Merthyr, have determined to demand an advance of 10 per cent on their present rate of wages, and it is believed that this step is the precursor of a general movement for a rise throughout the district. The Amalgamated Association of Miners have just distributed the sum of £573 amongst the colliers who were recently on strike in South Wales. The money is paid to those colliers only who have children, and is at the rate of 1s. 10d. per head for 7210 children. The Union, which found itself unable during the course of the struggle to make the promised payment on behalf of children, are now honourably fulfilling their engagements.

**CARLISLE.**—The boot and shoe makers at Carlisle have struck work for increased wages.

**DEAN FOREST.**—The Bilson and Crump Meadow Colliery Company have voluntarily advanced the wages of their men 5 per cent to avoid an expected strike.

**GLASGOW.**—At a meeting of the Clyde Engineers' Association, held at Glasgow, it was resolved, taking into consideration that the carpenters' strike continued in the Glasgow district, notwithstanding the advance of wages offered at Greenock and other places at which they work, that a lock-out of all the carpenters of the Clyde should take place unless the strike was brought to an end.

**BABY-FARMING.**—A shocking case of baby-farming was investigated by Mr. Hardwicke, at the House of Detention, Clerkenwell, last Saturday. The infant on whose body the inquest was held was the child of Agnes Anderson, aged seventeen, now an inmate of the prison. It was stated that the father of the child never contributed a shilling towards the support of either the mother or the child, which was born in the workhouse. Three weeks after its birth it was placed by the mother with a Mrs. Baker, of 16, Colville-place, to whom 7s. a week was paid for its keep; but it was afterwards taken to Mrs. Smith, who had it for a week, and received 6s. 6d. The poor child was subsequently taken back to Mrs. Baker, and was there (according to the medical evidence) so neglected and badly treated that it died in the prison infirmary from starvation. The mother used to take the child out at night and representing that it was dead, and that she wanted money to bury it, and on more than one occasion had said "that she wished the child would die." The officer who had charge of the case having stated that Mrs. Smith did not appear to be a guilty party, and that she would be a useful witness against the other prisoners, the jury returned a verdict of "manslaughter" against Anderson and Baker.

## LONDON POLICE COURTS.

**A MEAN CHEAT.**—George Way, eighteen, a brushmaker, described as having no home, was charged at the Mansion House, on Monday, with obtaining money by fraud, under somewhat singular circumstances. The prisoner had become acquainted with an errand boy named Richard Constantine, and had succeeded in obtaining information from him as to his situation and his wages. He represented that his uncle kept a printing-office in Fleet-street, and that he could get the lad a much better berth there. The boy accompanied him to Cannon-street station on Saturday last, and there handed him over at his request his wages, 6s. in amount, under the pretence that he wished to get some luggage from the booking-office. He promised the boy that if he went afterwards with him to Fleet-street he would return him double the sum, together with a suit of clothes. The prisoner went to the booking-office, but transacted no business there. The lad, being distrustful of him, asked to have the amount returned; and the prisoner, apparently in anger, threw a purse into the middle of the roadway in Cannon-street, saying, "Take your money." The boy picked up the purse, but found that it only contained 6d. in coppers. He pursued the prisoner, who had tried to make his escape, and gave him into custody. The prisoner then admitted the truth of the charge, and returned the money to the boy. The Lord Mayor sentenced the prisoner to two months' hard labour, and advised the lad to be very careful in future as to the character of the acquaintances he might form. The boy, in reply, said he thought the prisoner was honest, he having represented that his father was the proprietor of the *Daily Telegraph*. The Lord Mayor said in that case he would not have been in need of 6s.

**AN OLD IMPOSTOR.**—William Jones, who said he had no home or occupation, was charged, at Clerkenwell, on Monday, with asking alms in Leather-lane, Holborn. The defendant was seen by Welch, an officer, standing in Leather-lane; and, knowing that he had been convicted of mendicancy, he watched, and saw him receive several small sums. Ostensibly he was selling boot-laces, but when he saw the police approaching, although he pretended to be blind, he held out some laces and called out the price. When taken into custody he had written on a board hung round his neck the following verse:—

Men and women, who pass by,  
As you are now so once was I;  
Now I am blind, and cannot see;  
I pray, good Christians, buy of me.

The defendant was well known to Alday, a detective of the C division, who stated that when he was at this court last he was sentenced to three months' hard labour for begging. On that occasion he was dressed in the uniform of the 16th Lancers, and he then had a board round his neck, on which was written, "I am a poor discharged soldier. After serving my Queen and country for nine years, I was discharged on 6d. a day for six months. I am now unable to work." Inquiries were instituted, and it was ascertained that no such person had been discharged from the above regiment, and it further transpired that the defendant had been convicted both at the Thames and the Marlborough-street Police Courts. After the defendant had served his three months, he was seen to leave the prison by Alday, who stated that he could walk as briskly as anyone else, and that there did not appear to be any trace that he was suffering from defective vision or any other ailment of the eyes. The defendant said he hoped the magistrate would give him one more chance, and he would promise him in the most sincere manner that he would never be found begging again. Mr. Cooke remanded the defendant, and stated that, when the previous convictions were proved, he should commit him for trial as an incorrigible rogue and vagabond.

**A BATCH OF STOLEN PROPERTY.**—At Lambeth, on Monday, a young man named Clements was charged with having in his possession thirty-two keys, a knife, and a file, supposed to be for the purpose of committing a felony; also with having a paper-knife, one clock, three scarf-pins, and other property, and sixty-two duplicates relating to watches, rings, and a large amount of property, supposed to have been stolen. A description of some of the articles, it is thought, may lead to the discovery of the owners. The following are some of the articles:—A large gold watch, maker, "Yates, Coventry," No. 1655; timepiece, with rosewood stand, opens at back, maker, "Charles Frodsham;" a gold twisted pin, shape of lover's knot; a spade guinea, 1787, George III.; a lady's fine turquoise ring; a gold brooch, turquoise and pearls, and hair in centre; a brown leather portmanteau, addressed "Mr. Hadley, Spread Eagle Hotel, Northgate-street, Gloucester," containing a pair of light trousers and dark blue frock coat; a gold Geneva watch, sunk seconds, engraved cases, marked inside "L. L. C. No. 795;" a gold twisted pin (rope pattern); a silver lever watch, sunk seconds, capped and jewelled, maker "James C. Michie, No. 155;" a race-glass, black case, lined with red velvet, maker, "Jumelle, Marine;" black opera-glass, black leather case, lined with green silk, and twisted strap; an opera-glass, marked "Trade—Salmon and Co., London and Edinburgh;" opera-glass, in patent-leather case; gold coral pin, figure of a lady's head; two chased studs; two gold studs, twisted ribbon pattern; a gold seal (adieu of a butterfly leaving the husk); a large gold locket (horseshoe on back of case); lady's gold ring (two opals, oval shape, diamond on each side); a pair of coloured earrings, French books, a turquoise pin, two stones out, pearl in centre; a massive gold Albert, very large link pattern, each link marked 18-carat; gold coral pin; square-headed gold pin (two arrows crossed); scarf ring, stone out of centre; brass eight-day timepiece, key attached, with bone label appended, engraved, "To be wound up every Monday morning;" timepiece, mahogany case, makers, "D. ing, and N. Morrice, Royal Exchange;" a guitar, much scratched on back; a velvet sunshade, shot with black and white spots, ivory cross handle; cardcase inlaid with silver, pair of plain gold earrings, plain gold onyx pin. These and a large number of other articles, comprising clothing, &c., were pledged all within this year. Every information can be obtained at the police-station, Carter-street, Walworth.

**ROBBERIES WITH VIOLENCE.**—Street robberies with violence are again becoming frequent in London. Almost every day cases come before the

police courts, of which the two following, tried on Wednesday, are specimens:—At Worship-street, James Murray, about twenty-one years of age—one of the "no-work-to-do" class—was charged before Mr. Hannay with having been concerned, with several others not in custody, in violently assaulting Robert Hales, and robbing him of a watch and gold chain, value £5 10s. The prosecutor, who appeared in considerable pain, deposed that about a quarter past twelve o'clock at night he was returning home through Osborne-street, Whitechapel, when he heard a noise behind him and the next second was hurled violently to the ground by a "trip" from behind. Almost stunned though he was, he felt a tug made at his watch-chain, and his watch going. It was impossible for him to save it, as he then became insensible. He knew, however, that a number of men and lads were about him, and some kneeling upon him, but he could not identify any of them. A witness named Matthews and another named Budd deposed to witnessing the assault. There were some six or seven, among them the prisoner, and they closed round the prosecutor, who was thrown to the ground. The prisoner they were positive was one of the men who knelt upon him, and was the last to leave him, as he lay on the ground unable to rise. Police-constable 28 HR stated that he saw the prisoner leave the prosecutor, who was insensible, and immediately he took the former into custody. He denied the charge. His companions escaped, and the watch and chain were not found. A portion of the chain was, however, picked up on the spot where the robbery was committed, and this the prosecutor identified. The prisoner, who was said to be well known, was fully committed to Newgate for trial at the Central Criminal Court.—At the Thames Police Court Jane Mathias, aged 31 years, Agnes Kidd, 22, and Elizabeth Cox, 36, were brought before Mr. Lushington, on remand, charged with stealing £3 in gold and other moneys from the person of Wm. Coates, a seaman. The prisoners, who were most impudent thieves, pounced upon the prosecutor in Wellclose-square, near the Sailors' Home, on Saturday night last, and robbed him of his money, and beat him and kicked him in a brutal manner. They passed the money from one to the other, and when the sailor complained that he had been robbed, Mathias placed a sovereign among some silver, thrust it into his pocket, and said "There's your money." Two Jew shopkeepers, named Harris and Meyers, who saw the whole affair, interposed, and gave the prisoners into custody. A sovereign was found on Mathias, and another sovereign on Kidd. Mr. Lushington committed the prisoners for trial.

**STEALING BEER.**—At Clerkenwell, on Tuesday, William Sellwood, aged twenty-six, a pointsman in the employ of the Midland Railway, was charged before Mr. Cooke with stealing fifteen pints of ale from a cask in the goods-yard of the Midland Railway, St. Pancras. For some time past great complaints have been made to the Midland Company by the British brewers that have stores in London, that in transition the casks have been tampered with, and some of the contents removed. The matter was placed in the hands of Detective-Sergeant Woodrow, of the company's police, and he had stationed a porter at the St. Paul's-road Junction, to watch the trucks laden with beer and ale that were standing on the sideway. At an early hour in the morning a train laden with beer arrived from Burton, and was shunted on to the sideway, and thus left. Previous to leaving, the watchman went over the trucks to see if all was right, and on coming to the last one he saw what he said he thought was a shunter's watch. He stooped to pick it up, and on touching it was surprised to find the prisoner rise up, having a gimlet in his hand. He asked the prisoner what he was doing there, and why he was not on his duty in the pointsman's box, which was about 200 yards off, and he said he had come after a little beer, but he hoped no notice would be taken of the matter, and he would give his week's wages if secrecy was kept. The prisoner was, however, given into custody; and on the truck being examined it was found that two spikes had been driven into one of the casks—one for the purpose of giving vent, and the other for allowing the ale to run—and a pint of beer had been drawn off and was standing on the truck ready for removal. On the way to the police-station the prisoner said he had been led into the commission of the robbery by others; but as he was the first that had been caught, he supposed he must stand the brunt of it. Detective-Sergeant Woodrow asked for a remand, so that further inquiries might be made into the case. Mr. Cooke remanded the prisoner, and refused to accept bail for his appearance.

**POLICE PROSECUTIONS.**—In the case of a prisoner named John Cole, who was tried before Mr. Commissioner Kerr, on Tuesday, and acquitted, on three indictments charging him with burglary, and with feloniously receiving stolen goods, knowing them to have been stolen, the Commissioner made some severe comments with reference to the loose way in which the evidence had been got up. At the close of the last case against the prisoner the detective officer who had arrested the prisoner mentioned that a large quantity of property, which had evidently been stolen, had been found at his lodgings, and the Commissioner expressed his surprise that evidence had not been given with reference to these articles, observing that if that had been done the prisoner would have been, beyond all doubt, convicted, an expression of opinion in which the jury concurred. The Commissioner went on to say that this was a case which had been prosecuted by an attorney who had not taken the trouble to procure proper evidence, and who did not know his business, and called attention to a clause of an Act of Parliament passed in 1869, to the effect that where proceedings were taken against any person who was in the possession of stolen property evidence might be given that there were found in his possession other goods stolen within the preceding period of twelve months, and such evidence might be taken into consideration to show that the person knew the goods which formed the subject of the proceedings against him were stolen. Now the officer in this case told him there was a lot of plated and other goods found in the prisoner's possession, which there could not be any doubt was stolen property, and also twenty-eight duplicates; and he repeated

that if evidence had been given with reference to these articles, the man would have been found guilty. Mr. F. H. Lewis, one of the barristers in the court, said that the police put cases in the hands of a certain class of attorneys, and this was the result of that combination. Mr. Horace Browne, another barrister, said the name of the attorney for the prosecution did not appear in the *Law List*. The Commissioner said he should not allow the costs of the prosecution, and remarked that this was just another instance of the necessity of appointing a public prosecutor.

**SWINDLING AT CHELTENHAM.**—Two men have been apprehended in Manchester on suspicion of being concerned in frauds at Cheltenham to the amount of at least £700. Two or three months ago a firm of house and estate agents in that town received some letters from a person taking the name of Betts, with reference to renting a fashionable house at Charlton Kings. Upon reference being made to an address at Egham, the firm received a reply in highly satisfactory terms, and written on note-paper richly emblazoned with arms and motto in gold relief. The house was then let to the applicant on a lease of fifteen years, Betts paying a quarter's rent in advance. Having thus secured a respectable residence, the new tenant gave a furnishing firm an order for goods to the value of £300. Books, stationery, ironmongery, &c., were obtained from various tradesmen; and wine merchants were also patronised, one with an order to the extent of £80, and another for half that sum. Suddenly the numerous creditors were alarmed to hear of the arrival from London of an optician whose firm had supplied to the same gentleman a number of opera-glasses, without being able to get payment or the return of the goods. Upon this transpiring, one of the local tradesmen, accompanied by a legal adviser, visited Mr. Betts, whom they found in an elegantly-furnished drawing-room. A brief but stormy interview disclosed the position of the parties sufficiently to make the creditors chiefly anxious for the safe return of their goods. Two men on their behalf were put in possession, and were soon left alone in the house, the "gentleman" suddenly departing in a cab. Before going he said his wife had urgent reasons for leaving Cheltenham, and that he would come back to the house on seeing her off; but, of course, he failed to return, and the references to the house-agent have since been ascertained to be spurious. The prisoners, with several cartloads of goods which have been recovered, were removed from Manchester to Cheltenham.

**INSUBORDINATE JURYMEN.**—On Monday afternoon Dr. Lankester held an inquiry at the Wellington Music Hall, Brooke-street, Holborn, into the death of Mary Farrell, the wife of a pewterer, living in Leather-lane. The inquest had been fixed for 2.30, at which hour a jury of fifteen tradesmen of the neighbourhood were in attendance; but it was 3.15 before the Coroner arrived. On the Coroner taking his seat, Mr. Barnes and Mr. Warner, two jurymen, complained that they had served upon three juries lately, while some of their fellow-tradesmen in the neighbourhood who were duly summoned had never attended at all. The Coroner regretted that such should have been the case. He had the power to fine duly-summoned jurymen for non-attendance, but did not like to use that power if he could avoid it. He would take care that the absentees referred to should serve upon the next occasion. A jurymen next complained that the Coroner had kept the jury waiting nearly an hour, and said he thought the Coroner should be fined ("Hear, hear!" from several of the jury). The Coroner explained that his absence had been caused by his being delayed at another inquest. He did not complain so much of the remarks of the jurymen who had spoken as of the disrespectful tone in which they were made. That was not the first time he had been annoyed and insulted by jurymen in that locality. He thought some of them must be under the influence of liquor, or they would not act so disgracefully. This remark brought about half the jury on their feet, who, all speaking at once, declared they would not be insulted or dictated to by the Coroner. The Coroner's officer having in vain attempted to enforce silence, Dr. Lankester requested the sergeant of police in the room to stand up, which he did. The Coroner, addressing the noisy jurymen, then told them that they had committed gross contempt of court, for which he could order them into custody; and any jurymen who further interrupted the proceedings he should give into the custody of the police, with orders to take him before a magistrate. This intimation, coupled with the fact of the police-sergeant sending out for assistance, had the effect of restoring something like order, and the inquest was proceeded with. It is but justice to state that the foreman of the jury and several of his colleagues seemed thoroughly ashamed of the behaviour of their brother jurymen who took part in the disorderly proceedings.

## THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 15.

**BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.**—W. H. STEVENSON, Pen wortham, Lancashire, mechanic.  
**BANKRUPT.**—D. A. LOHIE, Newgate-street, manufacturer.—F. P. RICHARDS, Falcon-court, Fleet-street, solicitor.—M. SAYILL, Adam's-court, Old Broad-street, stockbroker.—T. C. BELL, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, wine merchant.—E. BROOKE, Bradford, woolstapler.—J. C. COE, Great Yarmouth, soda-water manufacturer.—F. M. COOPER, Plymouth, accountant.—W. B. GEDDES, Warrington, miller.  
**SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.**—G. WILLIAMSON, Glasgow, contractor.—T. GAFF, Stirling, chemical manufacturer.—W. M'KENZIE, Stark, and J. H. H. DUNCAN, Leith, merchants.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 19.

**BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.**—A. J. J. MACDONALD, New Road-street.  
**BANKRUPT.**—H. KEELY, Bockastle—F. C. HUID, Uckfield, surgeon.—W. ROEBUCK, Huddersfield, yarnspinner.  
**SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.**—E. F. DICKINSON, Ashton, Gourock, grocer.—J. SUTHERLAND, Hillhead of Lybster, merchant.

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the Session of 1871; Revenue and Expenditure; Obituary of  
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Terms, Cash; no discount. The smallest possible profit for  
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Annual average of patients delivered, 3500; annual number  
of unassisted parturients, nearly as many.  
The women are attended at their own homes; they like it  
better, and much expense is thus avoided.  
An annual increase of income of £10 would pay the cost of 30  
additional patients.  
£1000 invested in Consols would meet the expense of attending  
100 poor women annually in perpetuity.  
JOHN SEARROCK, Secretary.

**THREE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED**  
and SIXTY ORPHANS have been maintained and edu-  
cated by the LONDON ORPHAN ASYLUM since its formation,  
in the year 1813.  
Designed originally for 300 orphans, for years past the Asylum  
has sheltered 450 children, until medical authority protested  
against the reception of so large a number. The alternative of  
reduced numbers or of extension was presented.  
With nearly two hundred candidates seeking admission at  
each half-yearly election, the Managers resolved to build a Home  
in the country, which should ultimately shelter 600 orphans,  
and admit of the reception of 100 children annually.  
The new Asylum in complete erection at Watford provides  
for the immediate shelter of 450 orphans, but the buildings are  
erected on the scale of ultimate accommodation for 600 orphans.  
A further outlay, as funds admit, of about £12,000, will give  
ample and complete accommodation for the entire number.  
The building is rapidly advancing towards completion.  
It is remarkable for its good working qualities and the absence  
of all unsuitable ornament.  
The large outlay is accounted for by the provision of sufficient  
cultural space for so large a number of inmates.  
The effort will exhaust the reserve fund and leave the Charity  
dependent on voluntary aid.  
On this account the Managers very earnestly plead for AID to  
the Building Fund. They appeal with confidence because the  
labours of the Charity are as widely known as they are appre-  
ciated, extending as they do to orphans of every class and  
locality.  
The Managers respectfully submit that it is hardly possible to  
present a stronger claim to public sympathy and support than  
lies in their endeavour to afford, in the best possible way, a  
larger amount of relief to the widow and the fatherless.  
Further DONATIONS to the Building Fund will be grate-  
fully received.  
Annual subscription for one vote, 10s. 6d.; for two votes, £1 1s.  
Life ditto for one vote, £5 5s.; for two votes, £10 10s.  
Donations to the Building Fund give the usual voting privi-  
leges.  
Office, 1, St. Helen's-place, Bishopsgate-street, E.C.

**HOME CHARITIES.—Owing to the noble**  
and benevolent actions made by the British public  
toward the sick and wounded in the war lately raging on the  
Continent, to relieve the French peasants, and the relative  
and friends of those lost in H.M.S. Captain, and the relative  
of the following Home Charities have suffered very materially, viz.:—  
The Boys' Refuge, at 8, Great Queen-street, Holborn.  
Bisley Farm School, Surrey.  
Chichester Training Ship.  
Girls' Refuge, 19, Broad-street, Bloomsbury.  
Home for Little Girls and Girls' Refuge, Ealing.  
In these Institutions between 600 and 600 boys and girls are  
educated, fed, clothed, and trained to earn their own living.  
Besides the above work, upwards of 500 ragged school children  
are supplied with dinner once a week.  
An URGENT APPEAL is therefore made for help to purchase  
food and clothing for these poor children. Contributions will  
be thankfully received by the London and Westminster Bank,  
214, High Holborn, and 41, Lothbury, City; and by  
WILLIAM WILLIAMS, Secretary.  
Boys' Refuge, 8, Great Queen-street, Holborn, W.C.

**WESTERN OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL,**  
155, Marylebone-road.—THE FUNDS of this important  
Charity are exhausted, and the wards for in-patients must  
absolutely be closed unless AID is rendered.

**W. F. THOMAS and CO.'S**  
DOMESTIC SEWING-MACHINES  
By Hand, £3 15s. and £4 4s.;  
By Hand and Foot, £5 5s.  
All Lock-stitch, Work alike on both sides.  
SEWING-MACHINES FOR ALL MANUFACTURING  
PURPOSES.  
Catalogues and Samples post-free.  
Original Patentes (1860).  
1 and 2, CHURCHSIDE,  
and REGENT-CIRCUS, OXFORD-STREET.  
Easy Terms when required, without increase of price.

**SLACKS' SILVER ELECTRO-PLATE,**  
by Elkington and Co.'s Patent Process, is equal  
in wear to Sterling Silver. A great assortment  
of Cake Baskets, Cruet Frames, Fish Carvers, &c.,  
at prices suitable to every purchaser.  
Table Forks (Fiddle)  
Pattern—Per doz. .. £1 10s. and £1 10s.  
Dessert Ditto .. .. 1 0 0 .. 1 10 0  
Table Spoons .. .. 1 0 0 .. 1 10 0  
Dessert Ditto .. .. 1 0 0 .. 1 10 0  
Tea Spoons .. .. 0 12 0 .. 0 18 0  
Richard and John Slack, 336, Strand, London.

When you ask for  
**GLENFIELD**  
STARCH,  
see that you get it,  
as inferior kinds are often substituted  
for the sake of extra profit.

**A FACT.—ALEX. ROSS** guarantees his  
HAIR COLOUR WASH to Restore, in two days, Grey  
Hair or Whiskers to their Original Colour. Price, 10s. 6d.  
sent by stamps.—248, High Holborn, London.

**DINNEFORD'S FLUID MAGNESIA,**  
the Best Remedy for  
Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache,  
Gout, and Indigestion; and as a mild aperient for delicate  
constitutions, Ladies, Children, and Infants.  
At 172, New Bond-street, London; and of all Chemists.

**NO MORE MEDICINE.**  
70,000 Cures by DU BARRY'S  
DELICIOUS REVALENTA ARABICA FOOD,  
which eradicates Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Cough, Asthma, Con-  
sumption, Debility, Sleeplessness, Constipation, Flatulency,  
Phlegm, Low spirits, Diarrhoea, Acidity, Diabetes, Nausea and  
Vomiting, Wasting, Palpitation; Nervous, Bilious, and Liver  
Complaints.  
Cure No. 68,413: "Rome.—The health of the Holy Father  
is excellent since he has taken Du Barry's Food, and his Holiness  
cannot praise this excellent food too highly."  
Du Barry and Co., 77, Regent-st., London, W.;  
and 163, William-street, New York.  
In Tins, at 1s. 1d.; 1lb., 2s. 9d.; 12lb., 22s.  
Also  
DU BARRY'S REVALENTA CHOCOLATE POWDER,  
1lb., 2s.; 1lb., 3s. 6d.; 2lb., 6s.; 12lb., 30s.; 24lb., 55s.;  
and  
DU BARRY'S PERFECTION OF PURE CHOCOLATE,  
1lb., 2s.; 1lb., 4s., at all Grocers.

**HOLLOWAY'S PILLS** correct the most  
infirm digestion in a very short time,  
act gently as aperients, powerfully as tonics, and  
certainly as alteratives.  
They overcome all inflammatory tendencies,  
and generally work a complete and healthful change in  
all chronic maladies.

**BRITISH COLLEGE OF HEALTH,** Euston-  
road, London.—MORISON'S VEGETABLE UNI-  
VERSAL MEDICINES, in Boxes at 7d., 13d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d.,  
and 11s. each. Sold by the Hygienic Agents and Medicine  
Vendors generally.

**SMALLPOX, FEVERS, and SKIN**  
DISEASES.  
The predisposition to is prevented by LAMPOUGH'S  
PYRETIC SALINE, Agreeable, vitalising, and invigorating,  
its effects are remarkable in their cure and prevention. Take it  
as directed. Sold by Chemists and the maker,  
H. Lamplough, 113, Holborn-kill.

**CANCER HOSPITAL, Brompton, and 167,**  
Piccadilly, W.—In consequence of a considerable increase  
in the number of Indoor Patients in this Hospital, which now  
exceeds sixty, great additional expenses have been incurred.  
The board earnestly solicit further SUPPORT to enable them  
to continue to afford relief to that portion of the sick poor  
suffering from this terrible malady.  
Treasurer—Geo. T. Hertelet, Esq., St. James's Palace, S.W.  
Bankers—Messrs. Coutts and Co., Strand.  
Office and Out-patients' Establishment, 167, Piccadilly, W.  
By order, H. J. Dray, Secretary.  
N.B.—One guinea annually constitutes a Governor; and a  
donation of 10s. a Life Governor.

**EAST LONDON HOSPITAL for**  
CHILDREN, Ratcliffe-cross. Instituted 1863.

**PATRONS.**  
Her Grace the Dowager-Duchess of Beaufort.  
Her Ladyship the Dowager-Marchioness of Lansdowne.  
Mrs. Edward Marjoribanks.  
The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of London.  
The Right Honourable Lord Blayney.  
Chairman of the Board of Management—T. Scrutton, Esq.  
Treasurer—E. S. Norris, Esq.  
Bankers—The Alliance Bank, Bartholomew-lane; Messrs.  
Coutts and Co., Strand; Messrs. Dimsdale, Fowler, Barnard,  
and Co., Cornhill.  
This Institution is supported entirely by voluntary contri-  
butions, possessing no endowment of any kind whatever. It  
extends its aid to the women and suffering children of the poor  
in the east end of London; none but children are admitted as  
in-patients, the women being treated as out-patients. No fee  
is charged, advice and medicine being supplied absolutely free.  
Since the opening of the Hospital in 1863, 393 have been  
treated, 13,106 of these being out-patients and 11,7  
children in-patients. The increasing demands upon the Charity  
averaging from 25 to 30 new applicants daily necessitate the  
building of a Hospital which shall bear some proportion to the  
requirements of those for whom the Committee are labouring  
to provide.  
Full particulars and the necessary forms for admission by  
subscribers and donors may be obtained from the Secretary at  
the Hospital.  
DONATIONS AND ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS in aid are  
earnestly solicited.  
Cheques and money-orders may be made payable to  
ASHTON WARNER, Secretary.

**THE HOSPITAL for SICK CHILDREN, 48**  
and 49, Great Ormond-st., W.C., and Cromwell House,  
Hilgate.

Patron—Her Majesty the QUEEN.  
This Hospital depends entirely on voluntary support.  
The Committee very earnestly solicit CONTRIBUTIONS.  
Bankers—Williams, Deacon, and Co.; Messrs. Hoare; Messrs.  
Barclays.

**INFIRMARY for EPILEPSY and**  
PARALYSIS, Charles-street, Fortman-square, W.—In-  
door and Out-Patients are received from all parts. FUNDS are  
URGENTLY required to extend the operation of this useful  
Charity. Bankers, Messrs. Glyn, Mills, and Co.; Drummonds  
and Co.  
E. J. WATSON, Sec.

**ROYAL HOSPITAL for INCURABLES,**  
West-hill, Putney-heath, S.W.—This Charity is in  
URGENT NEED of increased SUPPORT, in carrying on its  
extensive operations.

There are 133 inmates and 278 pensioners—total, 411.  
In all these cases the benefit is for life.  
Upwards of 300 approved candidates are waiting election.  
To meet the actual claims, and to extend the benefits of the  
institution, the board depends from year to year upon volun-  
tary contributions, the reserve fund not supplying more than  
one twentieth of the annual revenue.  
Persons subscribing at least half a guinea annually, or five  
guineas at one time, are Governors, and are entitled to votes in  
proportion to the amount.  
Orders payable to the Secretary, 1, Poultry, by whom sub-  
scriptions will be thankfully received and all information  
promptly supplied.  
No. 1, Poultry, E.C. FRED